

Hafa Adai!

Public aid sought in identifying car used in robbery. **PAGE 2**
Marianas visitor arrivals dip 11% in June. **PAGE 5**

75¢

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXIX, Issue No. 141

www.saipantribune.com

THURSDAY JULY 18, 2019

www.facebook.com/saipantribune

MPLT loan bill heads to Torres

By ERWIN ENCINARES

erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A bill that authorizes the CNMI government to enter into a five-year loan of up to \$15 million with the Marianas Public Lands Trust now heads to the Governor's Office after the Senate passed it during their session yesterday. Gov. Ralph DLG Torres is expected to sign it, since the request for the MPLT loan came from his office.

The Senate, in a vote of (R-Saipan) House Bill 21-7-1, vaulted House Speaker 44, HS1 toward Torres for Blas Jonathan "BJ" Attao's

See MPLT on Page 4

Payless closes doors



The former Payless ShoeSource Saipan branch in San Jose. The company ceased operations last July 9.

MARC A. VENUS

By MARC A. VENUS

marc_venus@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Payless ShoeSource has made its final goodbye to Saipan, with the company ceasing operations at its Saipan branch last July 9. Its store in Guam

has also closed, in the wake of more than 2,000 shops in the U.S. mainland and Canada that will also be closing within the year.

The Saipan store began a closing-out sale that started

See PAYLESS on Page 4



RAFFLE WINNER

Jadrien L. Lotoc, second from right, accepts the \$10,000 check as the Liberation Day Raffle grand prize winner at the awarding yesterday at the Saipan Mayor's Office in Susupe. He is joined here by Liberation Day Planning Committee vice chair Shayne Villanueva, Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, and Liberation Day Planning Committee chair Joe Ayuyu Jr.

BEA CABRERA

Story on
Page 9

Study: Parts of RMI more radioactive than Chernobyl

By SUSANNE RUST
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Think of the most radioactive landscapes on the planet and the names Chernobyl and Fukushima may come to mind.

Yet research published Monday suggests that parts of the Marshall Islands in the central Pacific, where the United States conducted 67 nuclear tests during the Cold War, should be added to the list.

See STUDY on Page 4



James Matayoshi, the mayor of Rongelap Atoll, says, "What they're saying is, here is the dome. And here, in the lagoon area, there is radiation...But as far as leaking from the dome, we don't think that's the case?" "That doesn't make sense." The U.S. Department of Energy has disclosed high levels of radiation in giant clams in a lagoon near the Runit Dome, where the U.S. entombed radioactive waste from U.S. nuclear testing in the Marshall Islands almost four decades ago.

TNS

INSIDE



WORLD

The U.S. suspects Iran of seizing a small oil tanker from the United Arab Emirates.

PAGE 17



FOCUS

When Paul Njoroge gets on an airplane, he is fixated on the first few minutes after takeoff.

PAGE 18



LIFE & STYLE

HBO's "Game of Thrones" slashed its way to a record-setting 32 Emmy nominations.

PAGE 20



SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.



GOT A NEWS TIP?

TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440 FAX: 235-3740 EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

Local

Public aid sought in identifying car used in robbery

On Sunday, July 14, 2019, at about 7:22pm, the Department of Public Safety received a 911 call about a robbery incident that occurred at about 7pm, along Plumeria Avenue.

At about 7:32pm, officers met with a female tourist who claimed to be the caller. The woman told the officers that she and her daughter were

walking back to their hotel after having dinner at a nearby restaurant when she noticed

a red sedan pull up behind her and park on the roadway. As she continued walking, somebody grabbed her purse

CONTACT INFO

- If you have any information related to the robbery, call 911.
- Crime Stoppers hotline: 234-7272

from behind. Upon turning around, she saw a male individual in a black jacket and a pair of black long pants get into the backseat of a red sedan with her purse. The sedan then fled the scene, heading north along



This frame grab from a recording of the incident from a nearby security camera shows the vehicle used in this incident, a red four-door Nissan Sentra.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Plumeria Avenue.

Police were able to obtain a recording of the incident from a nearby security camera, showing the vehicle used in this incident—a red four-door Nissan Sentra.

The contents of the victim's purse include her Chinese passport, a watch (brand and color not reported), the victim's credit cards, about \$1,000 in U.S. currency, and a couple of telephone cards.

If you have any information related to the robbery reported at Plumeria Avenue, call 911. If you wish to remain anonymous, call the CNMI Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272. (PR)



FHB.COM

✓ Deck out the backyard

PERSONAL FIRSTLINE LOCK

6.99% APR* | **10.14% APR***
For 1 year | Current variable rate
as of 6/24/19

To apply, see any Customer Service Representative or visit fhb.com.



Gualo Rai Branch, Gualo Rai Commercial Center, Middle Road • Tel: (670) 235-3090
Oleai Branch, Oleai Center, Beach Road Chalan Lau Lau • Tel: (670) 234-6559

Member FDIC



* The introductory 6.99% Annual Percentage Rate (APR) is fixed for one year from account opening. After the introductory period, the APR may vary and will be adjusted monthly to 4.50 percentage points over an index, which is the Wall Street Journal Prime Rate, except that the APR will never be higher than 18.00%. The current variable APR is 10.14% as of 6/24/19. The APR will be 0.25 or 0.35 percentage point lower if you have a personal Priority Banking Checking Account Level 2 or 3, respectively. There is a one-time documentation preparation fee of \$50.00 and an annual fee of \$35.00. Annual fee of \$35.00 will be waived as long as you have a personal Priority Banking Checking Account Level 3 or Private Banking at the time the fee is assessed. Offer subject to credit approval and good for new approved Personal FirstLine Lock applications received from 6/24/19 to 8/31/19 and cannot be combined with other promotions or special rates. This offer does not apply to Business or Real Estate Loans. Refinances of existing First Hawaiian Bank personal loans or lines-of-credit do not qualify for the offer.



The robbery incident allegedly occurred on Sunday, July 14, 2019, at about 7:22pm, along Plumeria Avenue.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Burning vessel off Tinian reef

On Tuesday, July 16, 2019, at about 7:25am, the Department of Public Safety received a 911 call on Tinian reporting a burning vessel off the reef of Lasarinu Beach on Tinian.

Tinian DPS boating safety on Tinian launched the *Zodiac* from Marina Dock and headed toward the scene. Upon arrival, officers noticed a blue 30-foot vessel engulfed in flames with black smoke that was being towed away from the reef

line by a small boat with three individuals. Once the 30-foot boat was towed away from the reef line, the tow rope was released and the vessel was left to drift.

Officers met with the individuals onboard the small boat and learned that there had been two individuals on the 30-foot boat.

According to the individuals, the 30-foot boat had departed Tinian for Saipan when

the captain noticed the smell of burning rubber. The engines were shut off before the crew picked up the onboard fire extinguishers. At this time, the crew could not extinguish the fire as it continued to spread. The crew then ran toward the end of the vessel and they flagged down a passing vessel. Once the vessel got close, the crew jumped into the water and swam toward the assisting vessel. From there, 911 and the owner of the 30-foot boat were called. (PR)

Senate confirms Liu to MVA board; two to CDA

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Senate confirmed yesterday the appointments of three individuals to two government bodies that handle the marketing of the CNMI to tourists and the stimulation of economic development in the NMI respectively.

The Senate unanimously confirmed during a session the gubernatorial appointments of Thomas Liu to the Marianas Visitors Authority board and former House speaker Rafael S. Demapan and Joaquin T. Omar to the Commonwealth Development Authority board.

Liu told *Saipan Tribune*

yesterday that this was the first time that he has held a government position in the CNMI.

"I am honored to serve on the MVA board. Hopefully, with the knowledge and experience I have, I can share [them] with all the members to stimulate tourism growth," he said.

As this is his first time on a government board of directors, Liu noted that he would be stepping back and will be a supporting figure for the board as he learns the ropes.

"I would like to appreciate and commend the governor [and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios] for their confidence in me and for nominating

me," Demapan said in an interview. "Being a former member of the Legislature, I believe I am able to see and understand and foresee current situations and financial dilemmas."

Demapan said he would be prioritizing local entrepreneurs in an attempt to create a local economy that is independent of foreign investors.

"I also encourage our local people to take advantage of all our programs that are provided to make sure they [become] entrepreneurs," Demapan added.

All three confirmed nominations were present during the session.

Artists sought to create utility pole artwork

In cooperation with other government offices and tourism partners, the Marianas Visitors Authority is seeking volunteers to help beautify concrete utility poles throughout the Marianas with images related to island life.

Project Aligi (*aligi* means pole in the indigenous Chamorro language) has been launched to solicit and select artwork that will be painted by the volunteer artists.

The project is the collaborative result of similar ideas by the MVA and Lady Diann Torres Foundation to beautify concrete utility poles installed in the aftermath of Super Typhoon Yutu in October 2018.

Meena Benavente is the project chairperson, and the project is coordinated in cooperation with the Tinian Mayor's Office, Tinian Municipal Council, and Rota Mayor's Office.

Additional organizing sponsors are Commonwealth Utilities Corp., Tasi Tours, the Department of Corrections, and Pratt & Lambert Paints by Hong Ye Hardware. Paint and other supplies will be provided.

"Super Typhoon Yutu may have claimed our homes, businesses and other prized possessions, but it did not claim the spirit and hope of our community," the program states. "Project Aligi will give local artists an opportunity to remind our people that we truly are #MarianasSTRONG."

Pole locations include Beach Road, Pale Msgr. Guerrero Road, Airport Road, and Isa Drive. Each area has been assigned a respective theme, including ocean, history/culture, flowers, and nature.

Applications and additional details are downloadable at www.mymarianas.com/press-release-reports. The deadline to apply has been extended to Aug. 15, 2019, for Rota and Sept. 16, 2019, for both Saipan and Tinian.

Artwork submissions must include Chamorro and Refaluwasch descriptive words. Minors age 11 and older may participate with parental consent and supervision.

For more information, on Saipan contact MVA product development specialist Naomi Santos at nsantos@mymarianas.com or 1 (670) 664-3200, on Tinian contact MVA field office supervisor Vida Borja at vborsa@mymarianas.com or 1 (670) 433-9365, and on Rota contact MVA field supervisor Sandra Atalig at 1 (670) 532-0327 or satalig@mymarianas.com. (MVA)



Hot Deals on Used Cars

ALL CARS PRICED BELOW

CARS AS LOW AS \$117 PER PAYCHECK	SUVS AS LOW AS \$156 PER PAYCHECK
--	--

SALE PRICE \$20,995 PER PAYCHECK \$128*

*Fuel-efficient, 4-cyl. Engine • Automatic Transmission • Push-button Start • 17" Aluminum Alloy Wheels • Smart City Brake Support • Mazda CONNECT Infotainment System w/ 7" Touchscreen Display & Voice Command



Ben Lizama
234-7133 ext. 31
autosales@triplejsaipan.com

ALL PRE-OWNED VEHICLES COME WITH 3 MONTH / 3,000 MILE WARRANTY

 2014 FORD MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE SALE PRICE \$11,995 32,000 MILES	 2015 MAZDA MAZDA 6 SPORT SALE PRICE \$13,995 51,309 MILES	 2016 MITSUBISHI LANCER SALE PRICE \$14,995 32,754 MILES
 2016 MAZDA MAZDA 3 HATCHBACK SALE PRICE \$14,995 26,360 MILES	 2011 FORD EXPEDITION SALE PRICE \$15,995 51,000 MILES	 2016 MAZDA MAZDA 3 SPORT HATCHBACK SALE PRICE \$15,995 35,257 MILES
 2016 MAZDA MAZDA 3 HATCHBACK SALE PRICE \$15,995 35,897 MILES	 2017 MITSUBISHI LANCER SALE PRICE \$15,995 34,442 MILES	 2016 HYUNDAI TUCSON GL SALE PRICE \$16,995 16,190 MILES
 2016 MAZDA MAZDA 6 SPORT SALE PRICE \$16,995 23,792 MILES	 2016 KIA SEDONA SALE PRICE \$17,995 36,060 MILES	 2016 MAZDA MAZDA CX-5 SALE PRICE \$17,995 15,303 MILES
 2018 MAZDA MAZDA 3 SPORT PLUS SALE PRICE \$17,995 18,413 MILES	 2014 FORD EXPLORER SALE PRICE \$17,995 30,570 MILES	 2016 FORD TRANSIT E-350 SALE PRICE \$24,995 34,000 MILES

TO LEARN MORE VISIT: WWW.TRIPLEJSAIPAN.COM

TRIPLE J MOTORS

Beach Road, Chalan LauLau
 OPEN Open: Mon-Fri: 8am to 6pm • Sat: 8am to 5pm
 Tel: 234-7133/234-3051
 autosales@triplejsaipan.com
WWW.TRIPLEJSAIPAN.COM

*On Approved Credit (OAC). Some Conditions Apply. Doc Fees and Registration not included. Cannot be combined with any other offers. Vehicles may not be exactly as shown. See dealer for more details.
 Maximum Credit Card payment toward vehicle purchase is \$2,500. While supplies last. All Monthly Payments are based on a 20% down payment and 26 pay periods per year.

STUDY

From Page 1

In a peer-reviewed study, Columbia University researchers report that soil on four isles of the Marshall Islands contains concentrations of nuclear isotopes that greatly exceed those found near the Chernobyl and Fukushima nuclear power plants. On one isle, those levels are reported to be 1,000 times higher.

All four of the islands are currently uninhabited, and three of the four—Bikini, Enjebi and Runit—are in atolls where nuclear testing took place. But one of the islands, Naen, which measures less than an acre, is in Rongelap Atoll, nearly 100 miles away.

Researchers found concentrations of plutonium-238 on Naen, raising the possibility that the island was used as an unreported dumping ground. Plutonium-238 is a radioisotope associated with nuclear waste and not generally with fallout, said Ivana Nikolic Hughes, a co-author of the research and an associate professor of chemistry at Columbia.

The only other place the team detected this isotope was at Runit, where the United States entombed nuclear waste from bomb testing under a leaking concrete dome.

“We can’t say for sure that (dumping on Naen) is what happened,” said Nikolic Hughes, who directs Columbia’s K equals 1 Project—a multidisciplinary program dedicated to educating the public about nuclear technology. “But people should not be living on Rongelap until this is addressed.”

The results, published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, have reignited debate on the U.S. government monitoring residents’ health in the Marshall Islands and its assurances that locals face little risk from radioactivity.

Some researchers have declared Rongelap safe for re-

habitation. But the Columbia study suggests that, for now, people not return to Rongelap or Bikini atolls, where Naen and Bikini are located, until certain areas have been more thoroughly cleaned. More than 600 people have already returned to parts of Enewetak atoll—where Runit and Enjebi are located.

“We are concerned about what is being consumed on Naen and at what level,” said James Matayoshi, the mayor of Rongelap Atoll. He said he didn’t like the idea of people collecting food from Naen and the islands near it, because he doesn’t know what kind of risk that poses for his constituents’ health.

Others are not so sure the study’s results are valid.

Terry Hamilton, the U.S. Department of Energy’s lead researcher on Marshall Island radiation issues, said although the Columbia team’s approach seemed reasonable given the costs of pursuing such research in a remote part of the world, he was concerned their methodology and equipment could have overestimated the radiation they were detecting.

Nikolic Hughes and her husband, Emlyn Hughes, a Columbia University particle physicist and co-director of the K equals 1 project, rejected claims their methodology was flawed. The intent of their studies, they said, was to provide the Marshallese with an independent assessment—research not considered suspect because it was conducted by a government responsible for the contamination.

“The work provides valuable background information for local policymakers,” said Jan Beyea, a retired radiation physicist who has worked with the National Academy of Sciences but was not involved with the research. He added the results could tip the question of resettlement either way.

“Implicitly, I think these results might caution efforts to return, because of the read-

ings found,” Beyea said. On the other hand, she noted, information that only certain uninhabited islands have levels that exceed agreed-upon safety standards could mean “the return to some places might be made easier.”

The 67 nuclear bombs the United States detonated between 1946 and 1958 left widespread contamination on the Marshall Islands, a set of 29 atolls halfway between Australia and Hawaii. Although the United States conducted only 6% of its nuclear-bomb testing here, the detonations and mushroom clouds generated more than half of the total energy yield from all U.S. testing.

The most massive was the Castle Bravo bomb. It was detonated on the morning of March 1, 1954, and was 1,000 times more powerful than either of the bombs dropped on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima or Nagasaki.

The northern Marshall Island atolls of Rongelap, Enewetak, Bikini and Utirik received the most radioactive fallout from the tests.

U.S. authorities relocated people living on Enewetak and Bikini, where the testing took place, in the late 1940s. Those in Rongelap and Utirik—more than a hundred miles from the testing sites—were removed three days after they were showered by fallout from Castle Bravo.

The fallout, which some islanders mistook for snow, caused skin burns, hair loss, nausea and, eventually, cancer in many of the people exposed.

Since then, Marshallese have generally distrusted the U.S. government’s assurances of safety. At Bikini and Rongelap, residents returned to their islands after the U.S. told them it was safe. In both instances, the people were re-evacuated.

For years the U.S. government, with technological help from the Department of Energy’s Lawrence Livermore

National Laboratory, has worked to reduce radiation on Rongelap Island—removing soil from around the village and applying potassium to areas where food is grown, which works to prevent plants from taking up radiation.

People can be exposed to radiation by inhaling dust or drinking contaminated water, but studies have found that food is the primary way Marshall Islanders are exposed to radiation—even if background and soil radiation are relatively low.

In 1992, the United States and the Republic of the Marshall Islands entered into a memorandum of understanding that stipulated Rongelap Atoll, which was evacuated in 1954 and again in 1985, could only be resettled when radiation exposure levels—all sources of exposure—fell below 100 millirem per year. That standard, noted Nikolic Hughes, is much less stringent than standards in the United States—where the EPA established a limit of 15 millirem per year for the general population living near the proposed Yucca Mountain nuclear waste repository, for the first 10,000 years.

To provide an independent assessment of safety, the Columbia team examined contamination levels in Marshall Islands food sources, as well as the levels and composition of radioactive isotopes in the Castle Bravo crater. The National Academy of Sciences on Monday published all three studies—on background radiation, food, and crater sediments.

The food study showed a mix of high and variable levels of contamination on fruit tested on Bikini, Naen and Rongelap islands. Indeed, on all three islands, the fruit contained radiation higher than the safety levels established by Russia, Ukraine, Belarus and Japan, which have more stringent standards for limiting ingestion of radioactive particles than the United States. On

Bikini and Naen, some fruits even exceeded the looser U.S. standards.

In the crater study, the team found high levels of radiation in the crater’s underwater sediment, while also observing a surprising number of living organisms—including sea cucumbers, considered a delicacy in many areas of the world.

Curiously, the radioisotope levels found in Naen island’s soils—located around 100 miles away—were roughly the same as those found at the Castle Bravo explosion site.

Last year, a reporting team from the Los Angeles Times traveled with the Columbia researchers and divers as they took samples from the roughly one-mile wide crater—taking special note of the larger organisms, such as tiger and hammerhead sharks, that often appeared out of the murk.

The crater site, arguably one of the most destructive physical scars of the Cold War, is deceptively peaceful. Nam Island, which is adjacent to the site and was blown in half during the Bravo operation, is home to fairy terns and giant coconut crabs and is a nesting site for sea turtles. Hundreds

of just-hatched sea turtles were seen spilling across the beach into the lagoon.

“We have seen firsthand that a lot of these ... ecosystems have recuperated (since the explosion), so it’s important to keep an eye on these ecosystems to see how the residual radiation effects them and the critters living there,” said Gemma Sahwell, a 2019 Barnard College graduate who was involved in the research but was not listed as an author.

Combining the results of all the studies—including a 2016 study that looked at background radiation on Bikini, Enewetak, Rongelap and Utirik islands—the Columbia team stated that several of the previously radiated sites in the Marshall Islands appeared generally safe for reoccupation, as long as people didn’t rely solely on locally grown food. Other sites, however, need to be remediated.

Lawrence Livermore’s Hamilton said the crater study seemed legitimate and the food analysis corroborated his own findings. But he raised doubts about the team’s background and soil findings on Naen and Bikini.

MPLT

From Page 1

enactment.

Only Rota Sen. Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) voted against the measure,; Sen. Francisco Borja (R-Tinian) was absent from the session. Manglona’s vote essentially reflected a previous letter he had sent Torres where he raised some issues about the loan. Manglona later told *Saipan Tribune* that he appreciates MPLT’s effort to help the CNMI government out “but the problem is I wrote a letter June 12, 2019...and nobody is answering my questions.”

In that letter, Manglona asked about the casino business gross revenue tax collections; the \$15-million exclusive casino annual license fee; and the annual \$20 million Community Benefit Fund the lone Saipan casino has to pay every October.

“...Nobody is talking about it. They are just putting it under the rug,” he said. “...They don’t want to answer my letter and now they want my support? How do I know they need the money when they don’t answer [my] questions?”

Manglona brought these concerns forward during discussions on the bill.

Sen. Teresita Santos (Ind-Rota) said this was the time to act on the financial struggles the CNMI government is facing. “...Now is the opportune time to act on it. This is the Senate’s opportune time to act on this very critical legislation that will perhaps enhance our

[economy],” she said.

Sen. Sixto Igisomar (R-Saipan) described the loan as a step toward recovery. “...Yutu really devastated us,” he said.

Igisomar said the bill is the best solution for now to help the CNMI government, to help the Department of Finance, and to help the CNMI recover from Super Typhoon Yutu.

Senate President Victor B. Hocog (R-Rota) said that he’d avoid debt as much as the next person but it is necessary right now in order for the CNMI to survive.

“...When critical times faces us, critical decisions face us. I don’t like to commit debts, but if that’s the only way to survive...and restore...[and] to recover, then we will,” he said. “We are all gambling to see how we can expedite recovery.”

Sen. Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian) reiterated that the CNMI government had also availed of loans in other forms. He noted that both the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. and the Commonwealth Health Care Corp. took up loans with the MPLT.

“I am comfortable and confident to authorize the Department of Finance to engage in this portfolio,” he said after noting that federal reimbursements would take awhile to cover the government expenses incurred in response to Super Typhoon Yutu.

The bill ultimately garnered a vote of 7-1, with Manglona voting against. H.B. 21-44 HD1, HS1 now heads to the Governor’s Office for enactment.

PAYLESS

From Page 1

off with 30% discounts last May 31. The company then increased the discounts up to 70% while supplies lasted. For its final three days, Payless offered shoes for \$3 and accessories for \$1, leading to its final day sales of everything in the store at \$1.

In a Facebook post, Saipan store manager Flor Deleon Guerrero said they are experiencing mixed emotions and sadness with the closure of both Saipan and Guam branches.

Deleon Guerrero thanked their loyal customers that supported them through the years since Payless began opera-

tions on Saipan in 2004.

The company had declared bankruptcy in February 2019 but Payless communications director Lauren Jeffords had told *Saipan Tribune* in a previous email that Saipan, along with its Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands branches, will not be affected by the Chapter 11 filing.

One of the company’s Saipan customers, Kiana Atalig, was shocked that all Payless stores were shutting down. Payless ShoeSource was her usual shoe store, as she bought shoes that were used for work, school, and other events. “I really liked Payless and felt it was more convenient and affordable for me,” she said.

With the closure of Payless, Atalig says she has to resort on buying shoes online.

Jose Rabago Jr. was also sad, as Payless was his family’s primary source of shoes. “Payless was reliable. ... We could always find our type of shoes if needed for a graduation, funeral, or any type of social event... it was also affordable, with their promos and discounts,” Rabago added.

Growing up, his parents were also Payless shoppers because of their promos and discounts.

Rabago hopes that there would be a new local shoe store that can pick up the load that Payless had before its closure, or other local companies that can take advantage of this

loss and start selling shoes.

Saipan Tribune learned from a former employee that the company had been planning to cease operations “around mid-July.”

Payless filed for relief under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code early this year at the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Missouri, with some subsidiaries under Payless Canada also seeking protection “pursuant to the Companies’ Creditors Arrangement Act in the Ontario Court of Justice.”

Payless was known as a specialty discount shoe store that regularly offers “Buy One, Get One” promos and other special offers that was popular on Saipan.

Marianas visitor arrivals dip 11% in June

According to the Marianas Visitors Authority, arrivals to the islands of Saipan, Tinian and Rota reached 42,076 visitors in June 2019 compared to 47,341 in June 2018—an 11% decrease.

South Korea posted its best monthly performance since Super Typhoon Yutu in October, retaining its position as the top-performing source market for the Marianas with 21,270 visitor arrivals. Although arrivals from Korea were 11% lower overall compared to June 2018, continued improvement in the market was seen as all Jeju Air (Incheon and Busan to Saipan routes) and T'way Air

flights operated daily during the month. In addition, Jeju Air, a leading low-cost carrier in Korea, has decided to add more flights from Incheon to Saipan to target the coming peak season. The airline will operate four more flights a week on Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays from July 27 to Aug. 31, 2019. Also, T'way Air will increase its air service starting Oct. 27, 2019, adding one more daily operating flight from Incheon to Saipan.

Arrivals from China were 15% off last year's mark at 17,159 visitors in June. The market continues to face a

rising renminbi-U.S. dollar exchange rate as a result of U.S.-China tensions, which is also making tourists more hesitant to travel to U.S. destinations. Furthermore, Southern China market has been suffering tough competition from islands destinations in Southeast Asia.

Among the region (Guangzhou and Hong Kong), the intensive air transport became a disadvantage. In order to help sales in the southern China market, MVA China conducted two road shows

in Changsha and Wuhan and participated in the Hong Kong International Travel Expo with key partners.

Japan posted 517 visitors for the month, 7% higher than June 2018. Skymark Airlines has announced nine direct charter flights from Tokyo Narita International Airport to the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport between Aug. 9 and Sept. 22, 2019. Based on the high demand for charter flights from Tokyo earlier this year, MVA

is anticipating the continued growth in arrivals from the market since daily direct flights ceased in May 2018. Arrivals to the Marianas from Japan via Guam have also faced difficulty due to fewer interisland flights.

Economic highlights

Bank of Korea reported a deficit in South Korea's current account balance, the first since 2012, and negative growth in the first quarter. The average U.S. dollar/won exchange rate in June

was 1177.34 won, a slight increase from the previous rate of 1174.07 won in May. More South Koreans are choosing to take an early vacation this summer while also looking for ways to cut overseas spending.

In May 2019, the consumer price index in China went up by 2.7% year on year. China, the world's top spender reported \$277 billion in international tourism expenditure in 2018, a 5% increase in real terms from a year earlier. (MVA)

Probation, parole officers honored



CNMI Supreme Court Chief Justice Alexandro Castro signs the proclamation of Pretrial, Probation, and Parole Supervision Week as Associate Justice John Manglona and Lt. Gov. Arnold Palacios watch during the proclamation signing yesterday on Capital Hill.

MARC A. VENUS

By MARC A. VENUS
marc_venus@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

In honor of probation and parole professionals, and in recognition of their achievements for the CNMI, the week of July 21 to 27 has been designated as Pretrial, Probation, and Parole Supervision Week.

In a proclamation signing yesterday at the Governor's Office conference room on Capital Hill, Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, acting in Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' stead, said that next week's observance marks the 19th anniversary of Pretrial, Probation, and Parole Supervision Week. He thanked probation and parole professionals in the CNMI for their keeping the community safe and helping those under their supervision.

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo, who was at yesterday's proclamation signing, recognized the contributions of corrections professionals

who are responsible for supervising adult and juvenile offenders.

"Probation officers, parole officers, and the many others involved in community corrections play an indispensable role in implementing and enforcing those goals so essential to maintaining the rule of law," Govendo said.

He said that presentence investigation reports that probation officers sometimes submit in court play a big role in his consideration of a prison sentence for an offender.

He also applauded the CNMI Drug Court, saying it has seen overall success after being in operations for over two years.

There are about 23 adult and juvenile probation and parole professionals in the CNMI who supervise more than 400 adult and juvenile offenders.

The theme for this year is "Restoring trust and creating hope."



First Responders & Military Discount

Here's to those who serve

UNLIMITED 4G LTE DATA | ONLY \$74⁸⁰ Reg. \$88

10GB
\$42⁵⁰
Reg. \$50

20GB
\$59⁵⁰
Reg. \$70

40GB
\$68⁰⁰
Reg. \$80

f itecnmi @ itecnmi itecnmi

*Terms and conditions apply. Must present current First Responder or Military I.D. to be eligible. Discount applicable to eligible personnel account only. Must sign a 1 or 2-year contract on Postpaid \$50 Plan or higher.



'Inmate's suit vs DOC officials shall proceed'

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona has denied a motion to dismiss Reynaldo A. Manila's lawsuit against former Department of Corrections Commissioner Robert Guerrero and two other DOC officials.

In an order on Monday, Manglona determined that Manila's claim against former DOC commissioner Robert Guerrero and current DOC

official Jose K. Pangelinan is not barred by the statute of limitations.

Manglona said Guerrero and Pangelinan may raise their statute of limitations defense again in a motion for summary judgment if they discover evidence to support it.

The judge also found that Manila's complaint alleges facts sufficient to state an 8th Amendment claim against DOC official Georgia M. Cabrera for deliberate indifference to serious medical needs.

Guerrero, Pangelinan, and

Cabrera have 14 days to respond to the lawsuit.

Guerrero, who is currently the Department of Public Safety commissioner, was the DOC commissioner when Manila was diagnosed with retinal detachment in the left eye.

Manila sued Guerrero, Cabrera, and Pangelinan in 8th Amendment right to adequate medical care. He claims their indifference to his medical complaint caused him to go blind in his left eye.

Cabrera used to serve as

DOC commissioner, while Pangelinan served as acting DOC commissioner when Guerrero was transferred to DPS. Cabrera and Pangelinan are still DOC officials.

Manglona heard their motion to dismiss last Thursday, July 11, and placed the matter under advisement.

In their motion to dismiss, assistant attorney general Hessel Yntema argued that the first claim against Guerrero and Pangelinan was filed after the two-year statute of limitations deadline.

Yntema said the second claim against Cabrera fails to allege a serious harm that resulted from the alleged delay in the treatment of a cataract.

As this is Manila's third amended complaint, Yntema asked the court dismiss the lawsuit with prejudice, which means Manila can no longer re-file the lawsuit.

Manila appeared at the hearing via telephone and without a lawyer. He remains in the custody of DOC.

In her 16-page order that denied the motion to dismiss last

Tuesday, Manglona said it appears that Manila has been in CNMI custody continuously from the initial diagnoses of his retinal detachment until the present day.

Manglona said most of the documents that Manila has attached to his pleading and that he refers to are inmate request forms, DOC medical consultation reports, and letters from doctors to DOC officials.

"The court finds that Manila has pleaded sufficient facts to plausibly establish the tolling exception for disability so as to overcome a motion to dismiss on statute of limitations grounds," Manglona said.

Club 88 celebrates its 4th anniversary

By **BEA CABRERA**
beecabbie@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Club 88, which launched itself four years ago as "the best little gaming club on Saipan," is celebrating its fourth anniversary with a monthlong series of promotions and a promise to keep doing what they do, not only for the next four years but for the long haul.

According to Gus Noble, consolidating manager of Mariana Entertainment, LLC, which runs Club 88, when e-gaming was first introduced on Saipan, it was an offering for tourism.

"But it was also importantly introduced as a source of revenue and funding for the government and I think we are able to show it's quite relevant...when you look at other gaming institutions," he said.

He pointed out that Club 88 pays a gaming tax of 15%,

which the company pays in advance, an annual operating fee of \$100,000, plus the business gross revenue tax every month.

"We pay our taxes on time every month. ...We are part of the Saipan community, we are proud of it and we are not going anywhere," he added.

Club 88 also boasts of having 100% local residents and U.S.-citizen employees. "We don't have CW or foreign workers," Noble said. "We don't bring in managers and supervisors because we bring in juniors to train and move them up to supervisors and managers."

Since opening in Garapan on July 16 four years ago, one of the significant changes at Club 88 was the doubling of its size.

"We expanded by tearing down the wall and took over the gift shop next door. ... It allowed us and our guests to get more comfortable surroundings and increase our

machine numbers for players," he said.

Since Club 88 is a part of the Saipan Vegas group now, Noble said they are always looking at expanding their options for their players in terms of products and promotions.

"We always look at being the leader in promotions as we give away big cash prizes," he said.

Club 88 has over 100 machines now and a new roulette is being brought in. "It's all about creating a fun experience for the players—a pleasant environment, good products, and promotions," he added.

He concedes that they have faced unique circumstances as a business on Saipan. "We are also affected by the current economic conditions on island such as softening in revenues but...we have a good sustainable business that's profitable. It can cope



From left, Club 88 staff Sonia Ancheta, supervisor Emily Mamuad, consolidating manager of Mariana Entertainment, LLC. Gus Noble, marketing supervisor Racquel Floyd, purchasing manager Virgie Capacite, and staff Clemency Ubas at their 4th year anniversary celebration last Wednesday at Club 88 in Garapan.

BEA CABRERA

with the ups and downs, which is just an inevitable part, particularly in the CNMI economy, which has a habit of being in boom and bust cycles," he said. "You have to build a business...that is able to work through those cycles and benefit from the upsides and be able to work through the tougher times."

"I think it is important for the CNMI economy to have businesses that are sustainable," he added.

Service at Club 88 includes serving guests with unlimited hotdog sandwiches, coffee, water, and beer 24/7. "They are free and you can drink...as long as it is in moderation," Noble said.

As part of their anniversary celebrations, Club 88 has lined up anniversary promos for the entire month of July, said marketing supervisor Racquel Floyd.

"Every Friday, we have a \$2,500 mega-draw at mid-

night. The good thing about this promo is, every time they collect the tickets during raffle hours, which we have four to five times [a day], those tickets are eligible for all the draws that we have every Friday. ...So they need to keep their tickets from day one until the end of the promo," she said.

Club 88 is located at Ocean View Hotel on Beach Road. For more information, call (670) 233-0888.

DREAM PACIFIC CORPORATION

Has an opening for
RESERVATIONS SALES AGENT (1)

Job Duties:

- 1.) Make arrangements for Hotel/Restaurant/Optional Tour Reservations of tourist customers.
- 2.) Make daily schedules for Korean customer's trip itinerary.
- 3.) Make Inquiry on hotel availability.
- 4.) Coordinate with tourist customers/hotels/restaurants/optional tour companies in making any requests from tourist customers.
- 5.) Coordinate and communicate with Tour Companies in Korea in regards to upcoming/arriving Tourist customers.
- 6.) Make reports on daily tour activities.
- 7.) Make Hotel/Restaurant/optional tour payments.

Requirements:

- At least High school Graduate or higher.
- Must be knowledgeable in computer programs (Excel, Word and Online Reservation System)
- Must know how to operate simple office machines such as fax/telephone and computer
- Good verbal and written communications required.
- Must be able to read, write and speak Korean Language for better communications with the main office and with the customers.
- At least 12 months related experience in travel/tourism industry.
- Police clearance required- equally applied to both US workers and CW-1 Workers.
- Valid Driver's License Required.
- Previous Job Certificate required- equally applied to both US workers and CW-1 Workers.

Salary: \$ 8.54 per hour
This is a temporary full time position

Interested applicants Send resume to dreampacificcorp2016@gmail.com or call 1-670-234-1667 (Monday to Saturday 9am-6pm).

DREAM PACIFIC CORPORATION

Has an opening for
TOUR GUIDE (5)

Job Duties:

1. Handle pre-arrange package tours & activities surrounding in-bound tours, have the ability to carry out activities numerated in the package tour.
2. Prepares reports on tour activities.
3. Correspond with tour operators in Korea.
4. Prepare exit & arrival schedules.
5. Formulate, organize & execute an attractive & competitive tour package to be sold Korean tourists who are based in Korea.
6. Confirms reservations, arranges sales of optional tours or services.
7. Assist in selling of optional tours, assist customers on daily basis in explaining all the optional tours and rental items available and perform other duties as assigned or as required.
8. Explain the different optional tours available on the island.
9. Explain and inform tourist customers about the different historic tourist spots on the island to give each customers knowledge about the islands history and its significance to the people of Saipan.

Requirements:

1. Two years related experience in tour/travel industry.
2. Must be able to speak, read and write Korean Language.
3. Computer skill required, excel and word.
4. At least High school graduate.
5. Traffic and Police clearance required (Will be applied equally to US workers and CW-1 workers).
6. Must possess a Tour Guide Certificate from MVA/NMC.
7. Must possess a valid CNMI Driver's License.
8. Must be willing to work flexible schedule.
9. Previous work experience certificate required (Will be applied equally to US workers and CW-1 Workers).

Salary: : \$ 9.23 per hour
This is a temporary full time position

Interested applicants Send resume to dreampacificcorp2016@gmail.com or call 1-670-234-1667(Monday to Saturday 9am-6pm).

DREAM PACIFIC CORPORATION

Has an opening for
TOUR MANAGER (1)

Job Duties:

- 1.) Plan transportation and accommodations for travel agency customers.
- 2.) Determine destination modes of transportation, travel dates, cost and accommodations required.
- 3.) May also describe plan and arrange itineraries and sell tour packages.
- 4.) May assist in resolving clients travel problem.
- 5.) Oversees Tour guides and fix their schedule.
- 6.) Plan tour itineraries, applying knowledge of travel routes and destination sites.
- 7.) Resolve any problems with itineraries, service or accommodations.
- 8.) Sell travel packages.
- 9.) Arrange for tour or expedition details such as accommodations, transportation, equipment and the availability of medical personnel.
- 10.) Evaluate services received on tour, report findings to the organizers.

Requirements:

- Must be at least High school Graduate with 2 years related experience.
- Must be knowledgeable in computer programs (Excel, Word and Online Reservation System)
- Must be able to read, write and speak Korean Language for better communications with the main office and with the customers.
- At least 2 years related experience in travel/tourism industry.
- Police clearance required- equally applied to both US workers and CW-1 Workers.
- Must possess a Valid Driver's License.
- Previous work experience Certificate required- equally applied to both US workers and CW-1 Workers.

Salary: \$ 14.82 per hour
This is a temporary full time position

Interested applicants Send resume to dreampacificcorp2016@gmail.com or call 1-670-234-1667 (Monday to Saturday 9am-6pm).



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Pacific Century Fellows-Marianas Chapter's Class of 2019 and some members of the Class of 2014 join Guam Young Professionals officials for a group photo at the latter's office on Papas Airport Road in Guam last Tuesday.

As part of a three-day retreat, members of the Pacific Century Fellows-Marianas Chapter's Class of 2019 are in Guam, meeting the island's public and private sectors officials.

Class members Nola Hix, Kevin Bautista, Lorenza Aldan, Manny Castro, Christopher Ching, Bonny Cruz, Ricardo Cruz Jr., Clinton Dela Cruz, Kaelani Demapan, Alexis Hofschneider, Amber Lynn Mendiola, Le'An Murphy, Benjamin Petersburg, Michael Sheu, Leila Staffler, Noelle Macario, and Rep. Sheila Babauta (I-Saipan) and Class of 2014's Bobby Cruz

arrived in Guam last Tuesday and had their first stop at the office of Guam Young Professionals on Papas Airport Road. The group also visited the Guam Power Authority, University of Guam, Guam Community College, and Guahan Museum.

"I'm looking forward to learning more about the issues on Guam and how they relate to the CNMI. Many make comparisons between the two island communities and, although we are similar in many ways, there are major differences we tend to forget, like population, military presence,

and structure of government," Babauta said.

The lawmaker and the 18 other class members continued their meeting and discussions with Guam's government officials and the business community last Wednesday, visiting the offices of Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero, Lt. Gov. Josh Tenorio, the 35th Guam Legislature, Guam Chamber of Commerce, and the Guam Economic Development Authority.

"We have a fully booked schedule and I look forward to visiting all of the different organizations, but because I am a legislator, I'm really ex-

cited to meet the speaker and senators of the 35th Guahan Legislature. It will be interesting to hear their collective perspective on the Marianas as a whole while building relationships with these leaders, not to mention they're mostly women and often referred to as the 'Ladieslature.' What a moment in history!" Babauta added.

Aldan and Castro are thankful to Pacific Century Fellows-Marianas Chapter for coordinating the Guam visit, as this gives them the opportunity to talk to those in charge of Guam's development and

learn from them.

"We are meeting a dynamic group of agencies and leaders and I am excited for the opportunity to meet our regional counterparts in various industries, for reason that the work of each of these agencies are vital to the overall social and economic success of Guam," said Castro, the director for Northern Marianas College Enrollment Service.

The class will conclude its retreat today with a meeting with Rear Adm. Shoshana Chatfield, commander of Joint Region Marianas. The group will also tour Ander-

sen Airforce Base, Naval Base Guam, and the U.S. Marines Corps Base.

The event in Guam is the class' fourth in a series of retreats that seeks to give participants insights on tourism, education, government, health care, business, and other sectors affecting the CNMI by talking with experts in their fields.

Pacific Century Fellows-Marianas Chapter is a nine-month leadership development program organized by the Tan Siu Lin Foundation and modeled after the Pacific Century Fellows of Hawaii. (PR)



START HERE. GO ANYWHERE.

Registration for **NMC's Fall 2019** semester is *ongoing until August 23, 2019*. Start your way toward your degree today!

First Day of Classes
August 26, 2019

Learn More!
Attend a **FREE Info Session** on
July 25 and August 8, 2019
Time: 5:30pm
Location: NMC Library

**Math & English
Placement Exam Dates**
July 18, 22, 24, 29, 31
August 2, 5, 7, 14, 15, 19, 20-22

English and Math placement
tests starts at 9:30am. Call
237-6774 to make an
appointment.

For more information, log on to
www.marianas.edu or contact the Office of
Admissions & Records at oar@marianas.edu
or call 237-6768 / 6769 / 6771



www.facebook.com/NMC.Proa
www.twitter.com/GoProa
www.instagram.com/NMC.Proa





Farmers, ranchers, and members of the community pose for a picture with acting governor Arnold I. Palacios after the Farmers and Ranchers Week proclamation signing yesterday on Capital Hill.

MARC A. VENUS

Farmers, ranchers take center stage next week

By MARC A. VENUS
marc_venus@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

To recognize the valuable role farmers and ranchers play in the CNMI community, they will be taking center stage next week when the CNMI celebrates July 21 to 27, as Farmers and Ranchers Week.

Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, acting in Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' stead, signed the proclamation yesterday at the Governor's Office conference room on Capital Hill to declare the occasion.

Palacios, who also proclaimed Saturday, July 27, as Saipan Agricultural Fair Day,

acknowledged the work and dedication that farmers and ranchers throughout the island are doing to create local produce for the CNMI.

He urged visitors and the people of the Commonwealth to buy local fruits, meats, and vegetables as a show of support and respect for the CNMI's farmers and ranchers and their efforts.

"Growing up, I was exposed to 25 years of ranching, and I always wondered why I spent my time at the ranch instead of the beach...and, later on, I learned to value some of these farming and ranching cultures that we have passed on to future generations," Pa-

lacios added.

Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Anthony Benavente thanked both Torres and Palacios for their awareness of the importance of ranchers and farmers, and the CNMI Legislature for funding the 36th Agricultural Fair and keep it going.

This year's theme for the fair is "Agri-Resiliency" and the event was slated to begin last May, but with the ongoing austerity measures and the effects of Super Typhoon Yutu last October, DLNR and the Saipan Agricultural Fair Association decided to move it to July.

SAFA will be hosting the 36th annual Agricultural Fair on July 27 at the Garapan Central Park, from 8am to 2pm.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



Happy blessed 6th birthday to the funniest, sweetest, thoughtful, and most loving boy, Jayvin! You never fail to make us proud. We love you and hope you have wonderful day.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SBS CORPORATION dba HELLO SAIPAN JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) MARKETING MANAGER

JOB DUTIES:

Plan, direct or coordinate marketing policies and programs such as determining the demand of services offered by a firm and its competitors and identify potential customers, develop pricing strategies and the goal to maximizing firms profits or share of the market, while ensuring customers are satisfied.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Must be college graduate with
- With at least 2 years work experience

Salary: 19.45/hr

This job opportunity is a temporary full-time position.

(2) RETAIL SALESPERSON

JOB DUTIES:

Sells merchandise, greet customers and ascertain what each customer wants or needs, recommend, select and help locate to obtain merchandise based on customers need and desires, compute sales prices, total purchases and receive and process cash or credit payment, prepare merchandise for purchase and questions regarding the store and its merchandise.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Must be high school graduate
- With at least 6 months' work experience in sales
- With customer service-oriented person
- With good moral character

Salary: 8.36/hr

This job opportunity is a temporary full-time position.

(1) TOUR GUIDE

JOB DUTIES:

Describe tour points of interest to group members, and respond to questions, escort individuals, or groups to cruises, sightseeing tours or thru places of interest such as individual establishments, public buildings, and art galleries, conduct education activities for school for school children, monitor visitors activities, to ensure compliance with establishment or tour regulations and safety practices, provide directions and other pertinent information to visitors.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Must be high school graduate
- With at least 6 months' work experience as tour guide
- With customer service-oriented person
- With good moral character
- Able to read and speak in Korean language

Salary: 9.23/hr

This job opportunity is a temporary full-time position.

(1) TOUR MANAGER

JOB DUTIES:

Directs and supervises other tour guides to escorts individuals and groups on sightseeing tours or places of interest and provide pertinent information to visitors.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Must be college graduate
- With at least 2 years work experience in tour service
- With knowledge in making policy and implementing rules

Salary: 9.23/hr to 11.00/hr

This job opportunity is a temporary full-time position.

Interested Applicants can email their resume to
sbscorporation2121@gmail.com or
can call office number 235-2121 for more information
from Monday to Friday between the hours of 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

HANA TOUR SERVICE INC. JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) TOUR GUIDE

JOB DUTIES:

Describe tour points of interest to group members, and respond to questions, escort individuals, or groups to cruises, sightseeing tours or thru places of interest such as individual establishments, public buildings, and art galleries, conduct education activities for school for school children, monitor visitors activities, to ensure compliance with establishment or tour regulations and safety practices, provide directions and other pertinent information to visitors.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Must be high school graduate
- With at least 6 months' work experience as tour guide
- With customer service-oriented person
- With good moral character
- Able to read and speak in Korean language

Salary: 9.23/hr

These job opportunities are temporary full-time position

(10) OPENINGS FOR TRAVEL AGENTS

JOB DUTIES:

Plan and sell transportation and accommodations for travel agency customers, determine destination modes of transportation, travel dates, costs and accommodations required, may also described plan and arrange itineraries and sell tour packages, may assist in resolving clients travel problems.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Must be high school graduate
- With one-year work experience as travel agent
- With computer skills required
- Able to read and understand English and Korean language
- And can communicate with our main office in Korea

Salary: 14.84/hr to 18.00/hr

(1) ACCOUNTANT

JOB DUTIES:

Analyze financial information and prepare financial reports to determine or maintain record of assets, liabilities, profit and loss, tax liability or other financial activities within the organization

REQUIREMENTS:

Must be college graduate with bachelor's degree in Accounting, with work experience of at least 2 yrs or 24 months required and willing to work flexible time

Salary: 12.08 /hour

Interested Applicants can email their resume to hanatoursaipan670@gmail.com
Or fax to 234-3012 or can call office number 234-3011 for more information
from Monday to Friday between the hours of 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
RFP19-CHCC/CGC-016

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: JULY 29, 2019 **TIME: 2:00 PM**

“DISASTER CASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM”

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKET MAY BE PICKED UP AT CHCC PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY DIVISION-MEDICAL SUPPLY STORAGE FACILITY LOWER BASE SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

*Mandatory bidders meeting on July 03, 2019 @ 11:00 am, Saipan time @ CHCC Conference Room #3. *Off-island vendors, please email Subroto Banerji @ Subroto.banerji@dph.gov.mp for a Zoom link.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA **/S/ SUBROTO BANERJI**
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER ACTING CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

HANA TOUR SERVICE INC.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(14) TOUR GUIDES

JOB DUTIES:

Describe tour points of interest to group members, and respond to questions, escort individuals, or groups to cruises, sightseeing tours or thru places of interest such as individual establishments, public buildings, and art galleries, conduct education activities for school for school children, monitor visitors activities, to ensure compliance with establishment or tour regulations and safety practices, provide directions and other pertinent information to visitors.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Must be high school graduate
- With at least 6 months' work experience as tour guide
- With customer service-oriented person
- With good moral character
- Able to read and speak in Korean language

Salary: 9.23/hr

These job opportunities are temporary full-time position

Interested Applicants can email their resume to hanatoursaipan670@gmail.com
Or fax to 234-3012 or can call office number 234-3011 for more information
from Monday to Friday between the hours of 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Liberation Day contest winners get their prizes

By **BEA CABRERA**

beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Jadrien L. Lotoc's name was picked out of hundreds of coupons at the 2019 Liberation Day raffle draw last July 4, making this Kagman resi-

dent the grand prize winner of \$10,000.

The Liberation Day Planning Committee, led by chair Joe Ayuyu Jr., presented the check to 21-year-old Lotoc and to the other raffle draw winners at the Saipan Mayor's

Office in Susupe yesterday.

"When they were announcing the grand prize winner starting with the ticket number then my name, I literally went still and stared at the stage thinking, 'Is it really me?'" Lotoc said.

"Like me, family members

who were there with me when my name was picked were shocked but, of course, [also] happy," he added.

Lotoc plans to save the amount, with an eye at investing it on a type of investment "that will be of great help for the future..."

The raffle's first place with a cash prize of \$5,000 went to Jennifer Lizama of Dandan. "I was at home and it was my children who were at the raffle announcement. They called me to say I won," she said.

At first, she wasn't too excited because there are a lot of Jennifer Lizamas on island and she wasn't sure if it was she who won the raffle.

"I wanted to see the numbers to be sure as," she added. "I checked the number the next day and I said, 'Oh my, it is really me' and my initial reaction was, 'I get to finish my house!' Our house was all gone after [Super Typhoon] Yutu and what we got initially wasn't enough. The cash prize will put up all the doors and the windows, so this is a great blessing," she added.

Other winners were Esterlita Camacho who won twice for second and fifth places, Ricky Itibus for third place and the Liberation Day Planning Committee is still identi-

fying the owner of the number picked for fourth place.

The total amount of funds raised from the sale of raffle tickets was a little over \$96,000 and, according to committee chair Joe Ayuyu Jr., the intention of selling tickets was to raise funds to be able to put up this kind of event for the community. "It all goes toward operations—paying for the fireworks, preparing the grounds, the games and overall entertainment," he said.

"The Liberation Day Parade raffle prizes is one of the biggest cash prizes on Saipan, so people get excited and it is good because it helps us raise money. ... It is a very good incentive for people to buy tickets. ... After [Super] Typhoon Yutu, I think we haven't had a celebration, so this was a very good chance for families to get together have quality time," Ayuyu added.

Liberation Day Planning Committee vice chair Shayne Villanueva said that a portion of the funds that was raised also gets donated to charity.

"Last year, we donated to the [Saipan] Mayor's Office's dog [control] program and to two other entities as well. That is our plan for this year. We identify charities that need help and we usually vote and we give them a cer-

tain percentage of the total," he added.

Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang was not expecting many people to come out and join the Liberation Day festivities, especially after Super Typhoon Yutu. "But people showed up in high spirits and it shows resiliency. ... The community was one again. We also had the participation and help of businesses and many volunteers to make the celebration a success," he said.

The 2019 Liberation Day parade float competition winners were also presented with their prizes yesterday. First place went to the TanHoldings company, with a cash prize of \$3,000. Second place went to the United Filipino Organizations, the umbrella organization of Filipino groups in the CNMI, with a cash prize of \$2,000. Third place went to private citizen Eusebio Borja, with a cash prize of \$1,000, for his *karetan guaka* (bull cart) that was being pulled by a cow at the parade, and fourth place went to the CNMI Carolinian Affairs Office with a cash prize of \$500. This year's parade theme was "Marianas Strong," underscoring the CNMI's resiliency in the wake of Yutu, which hit the CNMI in October 2018.



BEA CABRERA

Representatives of the Liberation Day parade float competition's first prize winner, TanHoldings, are presented with the \$3,000 prize by Liberation Day Parade Planning Committee vice chair Shayne Villanueva, Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, and Liberation Day Parade Planning Committee chair Joe Ayuyu Jr.



BEA CABRERA

Representatives of the Liberation Day parade float competition's second prize winner, United Filipino Organization, are presented with the \$2,000 by Liberation Day Parade Planning Committee vice chair Shayne Villanueva, Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, and Liberation Day Parade Planning Committee chair Joe Ayuyu Jr.




BEA CABRERA

Liberation Day parade float competition's third prize winner, Eusebio Borja, is joined by his wife, Liberation Day Parade Planning Committee vice chair Shayne Villanueva, Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, and Liberation Day Parade Planning Committee chair Joe Ayuyu Jr.



BEA CABRERA

Representatives of the Liberation Day parade float competition's fourth prize winner, CNMI Carolinian Affairs Office, are joined by Liberation Day Parade Planning Committee vice chair Shayne Villanueva, Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, and Liberation Day Parade Planning Committee chair Joe Ayuyu Jr.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-19-012, Rev. 1

ISLAND WIDE WATER METER INSTALLATION, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Island Wide Water Meter Installation, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

This Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity work consists of the installation of new service saddles, corporation stops, and PVC service lines from the CUC main to the meter, proper sizing of existing service lines, installation of a water meter on non-metered customers, relocation of existing CUC water meters from private property to public easement, various exploration work, abandonment of unnecessary service lines, removal of existing manifold systems, and as required, installation of new service lines from the meter to the house plumbing.

The Bid Package may be picked-up, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) on an electronic disk file; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on **August 1, 2019 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Seven (7) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-19-012, Rev.1, Island Wide Water Meter Installation, Saipan" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **9:00 AM (ChST) on August 16, 2019**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on August 2, 2019 to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Nicolette Villagomez, Water/Wastewater Engineer – via email nicolette.villagomez@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, Purchasing Technician, Senior – via email christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

Medicare and foreign travel

Planning to travel abroad this summer? Before you go, keep in mind that Medicare usually does not cover health care services or supplies while you're traveling outside the United States.

That doesn't mean you have to travel abroad without health coverage. Here are 3 ways you can get health coverage outside the U.S.:

If you have a Medicare Supplement Insurance (Medigap) policy, check your policy to see if it includes coverage when traveling outside the U.S.

If you have Medicare Advantage or another Medicare health plan (instead of Original Medicare), check with your plan to see if it offers coverage outside the U.S.

Consider buying a travel insurance policy that includes health coverage.

In some cases, Medicare may cover medically necessary health care services you get on board a ship within the territorial waters adjoining land areas of the U.S. Medicare won't pay for health care services you get when a ship is more than 6 hours away from a U.S. port.

Medicare also may pay for inpatient hospital, doctor, ambulance services, or dialysis you get in a foreign country in these rare cases:

You're in the U.S. when a medical emergency occurs, and the foreign hospital is closer than the nearest U.S. hospital that can treat your medical condition.

You're traveling through Canada without unreasonable delay by the most direct route between Alaska and another state when a medical emergency occurs, and the Canadian hospital is closer than the nearest U.S. hospital that can treat the emergency.

You live in the U.S. and the foreign hospital is closer to your home than the nearest U.S. hospital that can treat your medical condition, regardless of whether an emergency exists.

Medicare drug plans (Part D) don't cover prescription drugs you buy outside the U.S.

If you get sick or injured while abroad, in most cases you'll pay 100% of the costs. In the situations described above, you pay 20% of the Medicare-approved amount, and the Part B deductible applies.

In the situations above, Medicare pays only for services covered under Original Medicare:

Medicare Part A (Hospital Insurance) covers hospital care (care you get when you've been formally admitted with a doctor's order to the foreign hospital as an inpatient).


Part B covers emergency and non-emergency ambulance and doctor services you get immediately before and during your covered foreign inpatient hospital stay. Medicare generally won't pay for services (like return ambulance trips home) in either of these cases:

Medicare didn't cover your hospital stay.

You got ambulance and doctor services outside the hospital after your covered hospital stay ended.

You pay the part of the charge you would normally pay for

By GREG DILL
Special to the Saipan Tribune



Greg Dill is Medicare's regional administrator for Arizona, California, Nevada, Hawaii, and the Pacific territories. You can always get answers to your Medicare questions by calling 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227).

covered services. This includes any medically necessary doctor and ambulance services you get in a foreign country as part of a covered inpatient hospital stay. You also pay the coinsurance, copayments, and deductibles you'd normally pay if you got these same services or supplies inside the U.S.

The 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa are considered part of the United States.

Foreign hospitals aren't required to file Medicare claims for your medical costs. You need to submit an itemized bill to Medicare for your doctor, inpatient, and ambulance services if both of these apply:

You're admitted to a foreign hospital under one of the situations above.

The foreign hospital doesn't submit Medicare claims for you.

Safe travels!

Helping loss survivors


Family and friends, also referred to as loss survivors, experience complex feelings after the death of a loved one by suicide, such as confusion, disbelief, despair, sadness, fear, grief, shame, guilt, abandonment, and anger. The death is often shocking, painful, and unexpected. And traumatic. Loss survivors need understanding, compassion, and support.

"The Suicide Memorial Wall (www.suicidememorialwall.com) was created on Apr. 15, 2001, to help us remember some of the names of people from all over the world whose deaths were self-inflicted. We also hope to show visitors that suicide is a tragic end to lives that once had great potential. Most of all, however, we hope to plant seeds of compassion in the hearts of those who read the names: seeds that may develop into a commitment to understanding suicide and finding solutions." The marquee on the website includes the names of 16982 people whose lives are acknowledged. Their names scroll on the screen 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 52 weeks a year."

This is a story featured on the National Alliance of Mental Health website at www.nami.org: "Since my soulmate of 33 years, Steve, took his own life in March, 2015, I have observed that there are some common ties that bind suicide survivors. Yes, some of these ties are shared by anyone who grieves the loss of a loved one and I am by no means trivializing their pain. We all grieve differently and in different ways for different relationships. However, in the case of suicide survivors, I believe our grief is intensified due to the stigmas associated with suicide and society's inability to comprehend how someone can take their own life."

"Without a doubt, suicide survivors suffer in a variety of ways: one, because they need to mourn the loss of someone who has died; two, because they have experienced a sudden, typically unexpected traumatic death; and three, because they are often shunned by a society unwilling to enter into the pain of their grief" (www.survivorsofsuicide.com).

By MELISSA MARTIN, PH.D.
Special to the Saipan Tribune



Melissa Martin, Ph.D., is an author, columnist, educator, and therapist. She lives in the U.S.

survivors, supported partially in some countries by government funds, but also by religious groups, donations and the participants themselves (www.who.int).

According to the World Health Organization, "there are more taboos attached to the discussion of suicide than to any other form of death. Those bereaved by suicide often find it very difficult to admit that the death of their loved one was by suicide, and people often feel uncomfortable talking about the suicide with them. Those bereaved by suicide therefore have less opportunity to talk about their grief than other bereaved people. A support group can assist greatly, as a lack of communication can delay the healing process."

FOOD FOR THOUGHT QUARTET

Best chow yet

Please enjoy with your favorite beverage, cold beer, root beer, and "shoot shoot, balut!"

Iced tea or fresh lemonade made in the shade, or a cold cola and you're ready to roll,

have a glass of plain water when you make it on your own or place a takeout order.

You ain't Nothing But a Salad

You ain't nothing but a green salad in a bowl just a wilting all the time we gotta eat you fresh and quickly some olive oil and apple cider vinegar squeeze on a little lemon and lime tuna, macaroni, or German potato some need mayo some no tomato Italian, Ranch or blue cheese dressing if no time for all that homemade messing mac and cheese made with elbow macaroni a grilled cheese sandwich fried with baloney love my Caesar salad apple walnut Waldorf add cabbage and into a buffet it will morph salad tomorrow is fresh local fruit. shoot!

You ain't Nothing But a Pizza

You ain't nothing but a pizza baking in a pan you ain't nothing but pizzas just bakin in pans

taste good so I want a large slice in both my hands you might be pepperoni mushroom maybe plain cheese you might be thick or thin crust, ham, pineapple Hawaiian you might be a supreme with any kind of meat you please you might be vegetarian or a combination to keep trying as you know though you gotta start with some dough and usually some kind of tomato or marinara sauce some cheeses mozzarella and parmesan is one way to go chopped olives onions peppers and spread them across bake till all those toppings and cheeses turn gold and bubbly I'll keep making baking eating pizza on that you can trust even when I'm old toothless gray and can't chew the crust.

You ain't Nothing But a Hotdog


You ain't nothing but a hotdog and a bun chowin down just a going down my throat you ain't nothing but three big chili dogs guarantee gonna make my stomach bloat some say you are a high-class Viennese sausage cat a plump Polish sausage cousin or some spicy hot Italian but you just a Texas hot skinny wiener dog or fat on top I want mustard chopped onions or scallions gotta have you any way boiled steamed or fried gotta have at least two or three of you going inside gotta have you at the ballpark BBQ or nearest beach just gotta have you and your soft buns in my reach you ain't nothing but a hotdog with yellow mustard finish you off with some soft vanilla ice cream custard.

You ain't Nothing But a Hamburg

(Fourth in this quartet was published in the Saipan Tribune

LITERARY NOOK

By JOEY 'PEPE BATBON' CONNOLLY
Special to the Saipan Tribune



Joey "Pepe Batbon" Connolly is a retired teacher and has been named a poet laureate of Tinian. He has taught English in CNMI public schools for the past 30 years. He has also taught in Alaska, New Orleans, and Las Vegas.






on July 4, 2019.)

Casserole Dishes Wants and Wishes

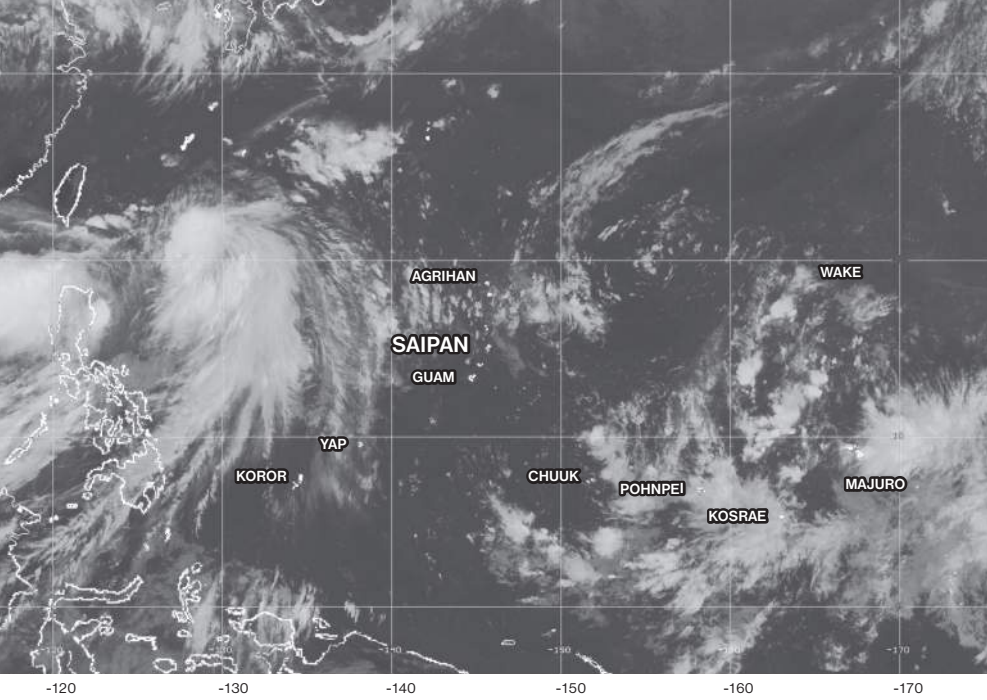
Shall we begin with some macaroni memories oven baked delicious dishes made with relative ease and no boxes of prepared mixes if you please or ersatz cheese tubes of yellow goop you squeeze many different casseroles are high in calories try Italian pastas, potato, vegetable, and frijoles Boston baked beans with molasses and ham appease most every appetite of hungry groups of hes and shes scalloped potatoes and sausage gone none left to freeze how about baked lasagna or pepper and sausage zitis elbow macaroni and cheese cream chipped beef and peas try all these casseroles whatever your appetite wishes bake some today and forget about washing the dishes give thanks you didn't forget simple beans and franks.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
				
Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
88°79°	87°79°	87°79°	87°79°	87°79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:10 AM, WEDNESDAY, JULY 17, 2019
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

The monsoon trough that had stretched across the Marianas the last few days has moved south of Guam. Radar and satellite imagery showed a few showers over the area this morning. A relatively dry weather pattern will prevail across the area the next few days.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA			▲▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	87° / 80°	
Palau	Thunderstorms	83° / 77°	
Yap	Thunderstorms	87° / 79°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	87° / 80°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	87° / 77°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	87° / 77°	
Majuro	Thunderstorms	87° / 81°	

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲▼ °F
Auckland	Rain	55° / 50°	
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	91° / 73°	
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	91° / 84°	
Honolulu	Windy	88° / 77°	
London	Showers	75° / 57°	
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	78° / 62°	
Manila	Thunderstorms	90° / 79°	
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	57° / 46°	
Miami	Partly Cloudy	86° / 80°	
New York	Thunderstorms	86° / 73°	
Osaka	Thunderstorms	84° / 79°	
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	79° / 59°	
Busan	Rain	79° / 73°	
Rome	Partly Cloudy	88° / 66°	
Salem	Partly Cloudy	94° / 75°	
San Francisco	Sunny	62° / 54°	
Seoul	Thunderstorms	90° / 73°	
Tokyo	Thunderstorms	82° / 75°	
Washington, DC	Thunderstorms	91° / 77°	



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
2:56 AM	LOW TIDE	1.35	
7:32 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.94	
2:56 PM	LOW TIDE	-0.03	
9:58 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.95	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:55 AM	6:51 PM
Friday	5:55 AM	6:51 PM
Saturday	5:55 AM	6:50 PM
Sunday	5:56 AM	6:50 PM
Monday	5:56 AM	6:50 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	6:46 AM	7:57 PM
Friday	-	7:36 AM	8:40 PM
Saturday	-	8:26 AM	9:20 PM
Sunday	-	9:14 AM	9:58 PM
Monday	-	10:01 AM	10:34 PM

NEWS DESK

For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE

For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION

Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING

For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 5, 2019

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	9:15am	10:00am	Daily	UA174	7:30am	8:15am	Daily
UA105	6:25pm	7:05pm	2, 4	UA104	4:50pm	5:31pm	2, 4
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451	4:00am	7:00am	3	7C3452	10:00pm	3:05am+1	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C3452	10:05pm	3:05am+1	4
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	1:35am	5:20am	Daily	7C3402	9:30am	3:10pm	Daily
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	TW307	7:00pm	12:35am+1	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
7C3403	4:45am	8:35am	2, 3, 5	OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3403	5:00am	8:30am	4	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	1, 2, 4
7C3403	5:00am	8:50am	6	7C3404	10:40pm	4:10am+1	3, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	5:10am	8:55am	1, 7				
7C3401	4:10pm	7:45pm	4, 7				
7C3401	4:10pm	8:10pm	1, 2, 3, 5, 6				
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:50am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:20pm	4:50am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)				HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN			
JD396	7:30am	12:05pm	1	JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4	JD395	8:50pm	5:00am+1	7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6	3U8645	7:50pm	2:40am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA117/183	9:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM	UA192/174	9:45pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA117/183	9:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/174	10:25pm	8:12am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA117/193	9:15am	10:40pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR	UA184/174	11:30pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	HX076	5:20pm	00:30am+1	3, 7
UO43	5:35am	8:25am	1	UO42	6:25pm	1:20am+1	7
UO43	5:50am	8:40am	3, 5, 7	UO42	9:25pm	4:20am+1	2, 4, 6
UA117/159	9:15am	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM	UA116/174	10:45pm	8:12am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA				ROTA TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily	3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily	3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily	3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM				GUAM TO ROTA			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily	4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily	2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
				2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
				2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
				2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
				2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
				2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
				2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
				2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
				2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
				2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
				2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily



TRUCKLOAD SALE

AMAZING DEALS ON DAILY ESSENTIALS, QUALITY BRANDS AND MUST-HAVE ELECTRONICS!

STORE HOURS: WEDNESDAY-FRIDAY 11AM-8PM • SATURDAY 9AM-8PM • SUNDAY 11AM-6PM

MATTRESS CLEARANCE SALE BUY NOW AND SAVE!

MATTRESS
FULL SIZE
135X190X19CM

CLEARANCE
\$149⁹⁵

MATTRESS AND
FOUNDATION
COMBO FULL SIZE

CLEARANCE
\$249⁹⁵

MATTRESS AND
FOUNDATION
COMBO TWIN SIZE

CLEARANCE
\$199⁹⁵



\$29⁹⁵

DAHDOL-5PC COMFORTER
SET QUEEN SIZE(JULIET)



\$44⁹⁵

DAHDOL-EMIRATES
5'3" X 7'2" RUG



\$12⁹⁵

DAHDOL
CURTAINS 999



\$33⁹⁵

DAHDOL - 6PC KING
SIZE COMFORTER SET

HOOVER
STEAMSCRUB
PRO STEAM MOP

\$49⁹⁵

HEADSET
BLUETOOTH
(460)

\$12⁹⁵

FIVESTAR BLUETOOTH
PILL SPEAKER

\$15⁹⁵



CRAFTSMAN
9GAL 4HP
WET/DRY VACUUM

\$99⁹⁵



BUSHCUTTER

\$99⁹⁵

HAIER 3.3 CU.FT.
REFRIGERATOR

\$149⁹⁵



NOW OPEN WEDNESDAY THRU SUNDAY



Scan QR code to LIKE our Facebook page
and get the latest deals and products!



For more info, please call:
322-0430



MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED



TRUCKLOAD STORE direct from **KMART**

STORE HOURS: WEDNESDAY-FRIDAY 11AM-8PM • SATURDAY 9AM-8PM • SUNDAY 11AM-6PM • AMAZING DEALS ON DAILY ESSENTIALS, QUALITY BRANDS AND MUST-HAVE ELECTRONICS!



RICE DISPENSER (A320) 27*32*33CM

\$13⁹⁵



4SGM - FARBERWARE METAL DRYING RACK

\$22⁹⁵



4SGM - SHOE RACK 4 SHELF 29"

\$9⁹⁵



DAHDOUL - DEEP DISH WW RESISTANT CAR MAT

\$19⁹⁵



GIBSON - GH GREAT FOUND 16PC BUBBLES GLASS SET

\$12⁹⁵



BETTER CHEF STAINLESS STEEL DOUBLE BURNER

\$26⁹⁵

BETTER CHEF 4QT DUTCH OVEN 2.5MM ALMM

\$10⁹⁵

GEO 1 GAL (128OZ) SPORTS BOTTLE WITH STAINLESS STEEL CAP

\$9⁹⁵



GIBSON HUMMINGTON NON STICK FRY PAN 2PK

\$19⁹⁵

PLASTIC 3-TIER SHELF CART SONTAI (9058)

\$14⁹⁵



HOLMES REMOTE CONTROL TOWER FAN

\$49⁹⁵



IMPRESS RECHARGEABLE 4" PERSONAL FAN

\$9⁹⁵

CONAIR 25 HEAT SETTING 3/4" CURLING IRON

\$13⁹⁵



\$23⁹⁵

ELICO BLACK METAL BRANCH WITH AMBER LEAVES 40"X10"



\$179⁹⁵

THD - SUCASA 36"X80" SECURITY DOOR



\$22⁹⁵

NORTHWEST TERRITORY LOW RESIN FOLDING CHAIR



4SGM - 2-STEP LADDER WITH GRIP 34.6" WHITE STEEL

\$25⁹⁵



\$9⁹⁵

PLASTIC CHAIR WITH SIDE ARM



DEAL OF THE WEEK

\$149⁹⁵

SEIKI 32" HDTV

BUY NOW



\$18⁹⁵

EVA MAT ROLL 180*200CM



\$9⁹⁵

YOGA MAT



\$399⁹⁵

HOME GYM 2980 WEIDER COMPLETE WORKOUT ALL IN ONE



\$14⁹⁵

LAUNDRY HAMPER/CLOTHES BASKET (5064)



\$4⁹⁵

DAHDOUL - 27"X54" STANDARD TOWEL



\$8⁹⁵

MEMORY FOAM PILLOW MEDIUM 33*51*91CM (105-1)

DAHDOUL - 2PC SHEPHER SHAGGY

\$9⁹⁵

DAHDOUL-CURTAIN ROD MEDIUM (48-84")

\$8⁹⁵



\$59⁹⁵

ELICO - TRI MIRROR FRAMED SMALL



\$5⁹⁵

CHILDREN'S MULTI-COLOR CHAIR (248HA)

\$6⁹⁵

SWING (YX012-1)

Scan QR code to LIKE our Facebook page and get the latest deals and products!

For more info, please call: 322-0430



Business

Facebook's currency plan gets hostile reception in Congress

WASHINGTON (AP)—Under sharp criticism from senators, a Facebook executive on Tuesday defended the social network's ambitious plan to create a digital currency and pledged to work with regulators to achieve a system that protects the privacy of users' data.

"We know we need to take the time to get this right," David Marcus, the Facebook executive leading the project, told the Senate Banking Committee at a hearing.

But that message did little to assure senators. Members of both parties demanded to know why a company with massive market power and a track record of scandals should be trusted with such a far-reaching project, given the potential for fraud, abuse and criminal activity.

"Facebook is dangerous," asserted Sen. Sherrod Brown of Ohio, the committee's senior Democrat. Like a toddler playing with matches, "Facebook has burned down the house over and over," he told Marcus. "Do you really think people should trust you with their bank accounts and their money?"

Republican Sen. Martha McSally of Arizona said "the core issue here is trust." Us-

ers won't be able to opt out of providing their personal data when joining the new digital wallet for Libra, McSally said. "Arizonans will be more likely to be scammed" using the currency, she said.

The litany of criticism came as Congress began two days of hearings on the currency planned by Facebook, to be called Libra. Meanwhile, a House Judiciary subcommittee extended its bipartisan investigation of the market power of Facebook, Google, Amazon and Apple.

On the defensive from bursts of aggressive questioning, Facebook's Marcus indicated the currency plan is a work in progress. "We will take the time" to ensure the network won't be open to use by criminals and illicit activity like money laundering and financial fraud. "We hope that we'll avoid conflicts of interest. We have a lot of work to do," Marcus said.

He said the new venture would be headquartered in Switzerland, not to avoid oversight but because the country is a recognized international financial center.

The grilling followed a series of negative comments and warnings about the Libra plan in recent days from President

Donald Trump, his treasury secretary and the head of the Federal Reserve.

But some senators emphasized the potential positive benefits of Facebook's plan, meant to bring money transacting at low cost to millions around the globe who don't have bank accounts. Facebook had its strong defenders of the project, too, on the panel.

"To strangle this baby in the crib is wildly premature," said Sen. Pat Toomey, R-Pa.

In that vein, Marcus said Libra "is about developing a safe, secure and low-cost way for people to move money efficiently around the world. We believe that Libra can make real progress toward building a more inclusive financial infrastructure."

The planned digital currency is to be a blend of multiple currencies, so that its value will fluctuate in any given local currency. Because Libra will be backed by a reserve, and because the group of companies managing it will encourage a competitive system of exchanges, the project leaders say, "anyone with Libra has a high degree of assurance they can sell it for local (sovereign) currency based on an exchange rate."

clare the county rules "void and unenforceable."

California kicked off broad legal sales of cannabis in January 2018, but conflict continues over where you can buy it. Marijuana companies and consumers had pushed for home deliveries because vast stretches of the state have banned commercial pot activity or not set up rules to allow legal sales, creating what's been called pot "deserts." Residents in those areas were effectively cut off from legal marijuana purchases.

Supporters said the problem was worse for the sick and frail, who would not be able to drive long distances to buy pot. Because marijuana remains illegal on the federal level, it cannot be sent through the U.S. Postal Service.

In January, regulators endorsed a rule that allows home marijuana deliveries statewide, even into communities that have banned commercial pot sales.

But Beverly Hills, Santa Cruz County and about two dozen other local governments have sued the state to overturn that rule.

The League of California

Cities and police chiefs have complained that unrestricted home deliveries create an unchecked market of largely hidden pot transactions, while undercutting local control guaranteed in a 2016 law that broadly legalized marijuana sales.

Santa Cruz County spokesman Jason Hoppin says the lawsuit attempts to gut the local government's authority over pot sales within its borders.

"We want to know who is doing business in this area," Hoppin said.

According to the lawsuit, the county allows only locally licensed dispensaries to make retail sales, including delivery orders placed online or over the phone.

The county allows 14 existing local businesses to apply for storefront dispensary licenses and "no other businesses can obtain licenses permitting them to make cannabis deliveries to locations within unincorporated Santa Cruz County," the lawsuit said. As a result "all licensed out-of-county retailers are prohibited from making deliveries" into those areas.

Nation

IN 'I CAN'T BREATHE' DEATH CASE

Police officer won't be charged

NEW YORK (AP)—After years of silence, federal prosecutors said Tuesday that they won't bring criminal charges against a white New York City police officer in the 2014 chokehold death of Eric Garner, a black man whose dying words—"I can't breathe"—became a national rallying cry against police brutality.

The decision to end a yearslong civil rights investigation without charges was made by Attorney General William Barr and was announced the day before the five-year anniversary of the deadly Staten Island encounter, just as the statute of limitations was set to expire.

Civil rights prosecutors in Washington had favored filing criminal charges against Officer Daniel Pantaleo, but ultimately Barr sided with other federal prosecutors based in Brooklyn who said evidence, including a bystander's widely viewed cellphone video, wasn't sufficient to make a case, a Justice Department official told The Associated Press.

Richard Donoghue, the U.S. Attorney in Brooklyn, said at a news conference that while Garner's death was tragic, there was insufficient evidence to prove



In this May 13, 2019, file photo, New York City police officer Daniel Pantaleo leaves his house in Staten Island, N.Y.

that Pantaleo or any other officers involved in the confrontation on a Staten Island sidewalk had willfully violated his civil rights.

"Even if we could prove that Officer Pantaleo's hold of Mr. Garner constituted unreasonable force, we would still have to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Officer Pantaleo acted willfully in violation of the law," Donoghue said.

Garner's family was incensed by the decision, the latest from a Justice Department under President Donald Trump that has scaled-back use of consent decrees aimed at improving local police departments found to have violated civil rights.

"This should have been taken care of years ago," said

Garner's mother, Gwen Carr, a vocal police reform advocate since her son's death. "This should have been taken care of under the Obama administration. Then we would have had a fairer playing ground."

The Rev. Al Sharpton renewed his calls for the New York Police Department to fire the 34-year-old Pantaleo, who's been on desk duty since Garner's death and is awaiting the results of a disciplinary hearing that could lead to his firing. Mayor Bill de Blasio's office said it expects a decision by Aug. 31.

"Five years ago, Eric Garner was choked to death," Sharpton said. "Today, the federal government choked Lady Justice, and that is why we were outraged."

Fed data: Opioid shipments ballooned as crisis grew

CLEVELAND (AP)—Newly released federal data shows how drugmakers and distributors increased shipments of opioid painkillers across the U.S. as the nation's addiction crisis accelerated from 2006 to 2012.

The data, released this week by a federal court in Ohio as part of a far-reaching opioids case, shows that companies distributed 8.4 billion hydrocodone and oxycodone pills to commercial pharmacies in 2006 and 12.6 billion in 2012. That's an increase of over 50%.

Over that seven-year period, 76 billion pills were distributed in all, according to an analysis by The Washington Post, which had sued along with another outlet, HD Media, to obtain the data. During the same timeframe, prescription opioids contributed to more than 100,000 deaths in the U.S., according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The shipments increased even after one of the com-

panies, Purdue Pharma, was leveled with a \$635 million federal fine in 2007 for falsely claiming its drug, OxyContin, was not as addictive as earlier opioids.

While OxyContin is the best-known prescription opioid, the Post analysis shows that Purdue accounted for just 3% of pills sold during that time. Three makers of generic drugs accounted for nearly 90% of the sales.

The data tracks a dozen different opioids, including oxycodone and hydrocodone, according to the Post. They account for most of the pill shipments to pharmacies.

The distribution data, maintained by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency, is a key element of lawsuits filed by more than 2,000 state, local and tribal governments seeking to hold drug companies accountable for the crisis.

Drug distribution companies told The Post that the federal data would not exist without their providing accu-

rate reports to the DEA. One company, AmerisourceBergen, said the data "offers a very misleading picture."

Cleveland-based U.S. District Judge Dan Polster, who is overseeing most of the cases, ruled Monday that the information covering shipments from 2006 to 2012 could be made public. He said in a ruling that there is "clearly no basis" for shielding older data.

His order came a month after a federal appeals court in Cincinnati vacated Polster's July 2018 decision that local and state governments, which had been granted access to the data, should not make it public.

A three-judge panel for the 6th U.S. Court of Appeals said Polster went too far in blocking the release of data that government attorneys argued could compromise DEA investigations. Polster asked attorneys from all sides Monday to suggest how DEA data collected for 2013 and 2014 should be protected.

Asia

PH ‘seriously considering’ cutting ties with Iceland

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte is “seriously considering” cutting diplomatic ties with Iceland, which spearheaded a resolution that asked the U.N.’s top human rights body to look into the thousands of deaths of suspects under his anti-drug crackdown.

Presidential spokesman Salvador Panelo told reporters late Monday that the Iceland-initiated resolution, which was adopted by the U.N. Human Rights Council in a vote last week in Geneva, showed “how the Western powers are scornful of our sovereign exercise of protecting our people from the scourge of prohibited drugs.”

Duterte told Panelo that he “is seriously considering cutting diplomatic relations with Iceland,” Panelo said, adding that the resolution was “grotesquely one-sided, outrageously narrow, and maliciously partisan.”

Human rights groups, however, have lauded the resolution as crucial to helping end the drug killings and bringing perpetrators to justice.

Duterte’s threat is the latest show of his disdain for critics of the deadly campaign against illegal drugs that he launched as his centerpiece project after taking office in June 2016. He withdrew the Philippines

from the International Criminal Court, a move that took effect in March, after its prosecutor began examining complaints over the killings.

About 6,600 people, most of them accused of petty drug crimes, have been killed in the crackdown, based on police records. But nongovernment groups claim a much higher death toll, including many suspects killed by motorcycle-riding gunmen who human rights groups suspect were deployed and financed by police.

Duterte and the police have denied authorizing extrajudicial killings.

The volatile president, however, has repeatedly threatened drug suspects with death in televised speeches and encouraged law enforcers to shoot suspects who fight back. He has warned that the crackdown will be more dangerous for suspects in the final three years of his six-year term.

The U.N. Human Rights Council voted 18-14 with 15 abstentions Thursday to approve the Iceland-initiated resolution, which called on the Philippine government to take all steps to prevent extrajudicial killings and asked the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights to prepare a comprehensive report on the Philippines.



Duterte

ASIA BRIEFS

78 dead in Nepal as flooding wreaks havoc in South Asia

GAUHATI, India (AP)—Monsoon flooding and landslides continued to cause havoc in South Asia on Tuesday, with the death toll rising to 78 in Nepal and authorities in neighboring northeastern India battling to provide relief to over 4 million people in Assam state, officials said. Nepal’s National Emergency Operation Center said more than 40,000 soldiers and police were using helicopters and roads to rush food, tents and medicine to thousands of people hit by the annual flooding. Rescuers also were searching for 32 missing people. In Bangladesh, more than 100,000 people were affected by flooding in the north and forecasters warned that major rivers continued to swell across the country. Rivers burst their banks in the northern district of Lalmonirhat, marooning villages, news reports said, quoting local water board officials. In the Indian state of Assam, officials said floodwaters have killed at least 19 people and brought misery to some 4.5 million. More than 85,000 people have taken shelter in 187 state government-run camps in 30 of the state’s 33 districts, the state disaster management authority said in a statement.

North Korea suggests it might lift weapons test moratorium

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP)—North Korea on Tuesday suggested it might call off its 20-month suspension of nuclear and missile tests because of summertime U.S.-South Korean military drills that the North calls preparation for an eventual invasion. The statement by the North’s Foreign Ministry comes during a general deadlock in nuclear talks, but after an extraordinary meeting of the U.S. and North Korean leaders at the Korean border that raised hopes that negotiations would soon resume. The comments ramp up pressure on the United States ahead of any

new talks. North Korea has had longstanding antipathy toward U.S.-South Korean military cooperation, which the allies call defensive and routine but the North sees as hostile. At the dramatic June 30 meeting between North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and U.S. President Donald Trump, Trump crossed the border dividing the North and South, becoming the first sitting U.S. president to set foot in North Korean territory. The leaders agreed in closed-door talks to resume nuclear diplomacy that had been stalled since their failed second summit in Vietnam in February. Despite the seeming mini-breakthrough, there has been little public progress since. North Korea wants widespread relief from harsh U.S.-led sanctions in return for pledging to give up parts of its weapons program, but the United States is demanding greater steps toward disarmament before it agrees to relinquish the leverage provided by the sanctions.

Rescuers save 2, retrieve 8 bodies after Pakistan mine blast

QUETTA, Pakistan (AP)—A Pakistani official says rescue teams saved two miners and retrieved the bodies of eight others after a methane explosion trapped the 10 in a coalmine in southwestern Baluchistan province. Imran Zarkun, a top disaster management official, says the search operation was completed on Tuesday. An investigation into the incident will follow. The mine partially caved in more than 4,000 feet (1,220 meters) below the surface in the Degari area near the provincial capital, Quetta, following the Sunday night explosion. The two miners rescued on Tuesday were in critical condition. On Monday, rescuers found another miner, not part of the group of 10, who had been closer to the surface when the blast occurred. Safety standards are widely ignored in the coal-mining industry in Pakistan, leading to numerous deadly incidents.

World



In this image from file video provided by UK Ministry of Defence, British navy vessel HMS Montrose escorts another ship during a mission to remove chemical weapons from Syria at sea off coast of Cyprus in February 2014.

AP

US fears Iran seized UAE-based tanker

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)—A small oil tanker from the United Arab Emirates traveling through the Strait of Hormuz entered Iranian waters and turned off its tracker three days ago, leading the U.S. to suspect Iran seized the vessel amid heightened tensions in the region.

Iranian state media quoted its Foreign Ministry spokesman early Wednesday as saying the Islamic Republic had aided a foreign oil tanker with a malfunction, but the report didn’t explain further. Oil tankers previously have been targeted in the wider region amid tensions between the U.S. and Iran over its unraveling nuclear deal with world powers.

The Panamanian-flagged Riah turned off its transponder late Saturday night but an Emirati official said it sent no distress call. The concern over its status comes as Iran continues its own high-pressure campaign over its nuclear program after President Donald Trump unilaterally withdrew America from the accord over a year ago.

Recently, Iran has inched its

uranium production and enrichment over the limits of its 2015 nuclear deal, trying to put more pressure on Europe to offer it better terms and allow it to sell its crude oil abroad.

However, those tensions also have seen the U.S. send thousands of additional troops, nuclear-capable B-52 bombers and advanced fighter jets into the Mideast. Mysterious attacks on oil tankers and Iran shooting down a U.S. military surveillance drone has added to the fears of an armed conflict breaking out.

The 58-meter (190-foot) Riah typically made trips from Dubai and Sharjah on the UAE’s west coast before going through the strait and heading to Fujairah on the UAE’s east coast. However, something happened to the vessel after 11 p.m. on Saturday, according to tracking data.

Capt. Ranjith Raja of the data firm Refinitiv told The Associated Press on Tuesday that the tanker hadn’t switched off its tracking in three months of trips around the UAE. “That is a red flag,” Raja said.

A U.S. defense official later

told the AP that the Riah was in Iranian territorial waters near Qeshm Island, which has a Revolutionary Guard base on it.

“We certainly have suspicions that it was taken,” the official said. “Could it have broken down or been towed for assistance? That’s a possibility. But the longer there is a period of no contact ... it’s going to be a concern.”

The official spoke on condition of anonymity as the matter did not directly involve U.S. interests.

An Emirati official, speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss an ongoing security matter, said the vessel “did not emit a distress call.”

“We are monitoring the situation with our international partners,” the official said.

Iran’s IRNA news agency quoted Foreign Ministry spokesman Abbas Mousavi as saying Iran had helped an unnamed tanker by towing it to an Iranian port, without elaborating. The report did not identify the ship, nor explain the malfunction and the lack of a distress call or any crew contact with home.

Top French minister resigns over alleged lavish lifestyle

PARIS (AP)—The No. 2 official in the French government resigned Tuesday following media reports that he has been living a lavish lifestyle at taxpayer expense, including hosting lobster and Champagne soirees and ordering up exorbitant renovations of his ministerial apartment.

With the French yellow vest backlash against the elite political system still fresh in the public mind, support for Ecology Minister Francois de Rugy ebbed as new stories emerged.

He said on his verified Facebook page that he submit-

ted his resignation to Prime Minister Edouard Philippe “to defend myself” and to protect his family. Before the day was over, Transport Minister Elisabeth Borne was named to replace Rugy, the Presidential Elysee Palace announced.

Rugy said he filed a defamation lawsuit Tuesday morning over the “media attacks” that forced him to step down from his post, which is second in the Cabinet after the prime minister.

Rugy has been the object of criticism in the week since investigative news site Medi-

apart reported that he and his wife hosted lavish dinners for friends while he served as president of the lower house of parliament.

After his appointment in September as ecology minister, Rugy reportedly spent some 60,000 euros (\$68,000) to refurbish his government apartment. He fired his top aide after Mediapart reported she kept a public rent-controlled apartment vacant, rather than using it as a primary residence as required. Then Mediapart reported that Rugy had done the same thing.

Focus

When Paul Njoroge gets on an airplane, he becomes fixated on the first few minutes after takeoff.

"I have to look at my watch and see when I reach the 6-minute mark," Njoroge says. That is the length of time that a Boeing 737 Max carrying his wife, three young children and mother-in-law was airborne before plunging back to Earth in a field in Ethiopia, killing everyone on board.

"I think about my family every minute of my life," he says. "When I'm flying, I cannot even dare to sleep because I'm thinking about them. I dread going back into a plane."

Still, Njoroge (ja-ROW-ga) will fly to Washington to testify Wednesday before a congressional panel that is examining aviation safety after two deadly accidents involving Boeing's best-selling plane. He will be accompanied by Michael Stumo, whose daughter, Samya, also died in the March 10 Ethiopian Airlines crash.

The Boeing Max has been grounded worldwide since shortly after that crash and it's not clear when it will be certified to fly again.

In testimony prepared for the hearing, Njoroge and other families of the 346 people who died in the accidents will demand that regulators perform a new, top-to-bottom review of the plane. They'll also call for airline pilots to get training in flight simulators—Boeing says computer-based lessons will suffice—and that Congress reform the Federal Aviation Administration, which certified the plane and declined to ground it after the first accident last October off the coast of Indonesia.

In a telephone interview with The Associated Press, Njoroge went further, saying Boeing should scrap the plane and company executives should resign and face criminal charges.

If Boeing and the FAA had done their jobs properly, he said, "these planes would have been grounded in November and today I would be enjoying summer with my family, I would be playing football with my son."

Because the size and placement of the plane's engines raised the risk of an aerodynamic stall, Boeing devised flight-control software called MCAS. Preliminary reports indicate that the software pushed the nose of the plane down in both crashes, and Boeing is working on changes



Paul Njoroge, who lost his wife and three young children in the March 10 crash of an Ethiopian Airlines' Boeing 737 Max 8 aircraft, speaks at a news conference Monday, April 29, 2019, in Chicago. Lawyers for two Canadian families who lost relatives in the Ethiopian Airlines crash filed a lawsuit against Boeing on Monday, claiming the plane maker was negligent about safety.

6 minutes: Man haunted by family's final moments on 737 Max

By DAVID KOENIG AP
AIRLINES WRITER

to make MCAS more reliable and easier to control.

Boeing did not tell pilots about MCAS until after the Oct. 29 crash of a Lion Air Max. Njoroge believes the company hid the existence of the software to cover up what he considers an irredeemable flaw that MCAS was designed to offset—the plane's tendency to pitch nose-up in some conditions.

"I'd like to see (Boeing CEO) Dennis Muilenburg and the executives resign, because they caused the deaths of 346 people," Njoroge said. "They should be held liable criminally for the deaths of my wife and my children and my mom-in-law and 152 others in the crash of Ethiopian Airlines flight 302 because that was preventable."

Chicago-based Boeing said it lamented the impact that the crashes are having on families of those on board.

"These incidents and the lives lost will continue to weigh heavily on our hearts and on our minds for years to



In this March 11, 2019, file photo, rescuers work at the scene of an Ethiopian Airlines flight crash near Bishoftu, or Debre Zeit, south of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Paul Njoroge, who lost his wife and three young children in the March 10 crash of an Ethiopian Airlines' Boeing 737 Max 8 aircraft, believes Boeing should scrap the 737 Max, and he wants the company's top executives to resign and face criminal charges for not grounding the plane after a deadly accident last October. On Wednesday, July 17, Njoroge will be the first relative of any of the 346 passengers who died in those crashes to testify before Congress.

come," the company said in a statement. "We are committed to working with the communi-

ties, customers and the aviation industry to help with the healing process."

Njoroge, 35, was born in Kenya and now lives in Toronto, where he works as

an investment professional. A Chicago aviation lawyer, Robert Clifford, sued Boeing on his behalf over the deaths of his wife, Carol, his son and daughters, 6-year-old Ryan, 4-year-old Kelli and 9-month-old Rubi, and his wife's mother.

They were on their way to visit family in Kenya when the Nairobi-bound plane crashed.

Njoroge accused Boeing of trying to shift blame to foreign pilots in Indonesia and Ethiopia to avoid grounding the Max, which he called "utter prejudice."

After the Lion Air crash, Boeing issued a bulletin to pilots reminding them about Boeing instructions for responding when the airplane automatically forces the nose down. After the Ethiopian crash, Muilenburg said the pilots did not completely follow the procedures. The preliminary report indicated the Ethiopian pilots tried the procedures nearly until the end but could not save the plane, and they were flying extremely fast.

Muilenburg has repeatedly apologized in public to families of the passengers. Njoroge said he has not received personal condolences.

"It would be very important if Boeing executives can meet with the family members in person and apologize to them," he said. "That would help."

Njoroge has not returned to work since the accident and doesn't know when—or if—he ever will.

"I've been trying to restructure my life, but I don't know how to do it," he said. "Every aspect of life today is a reminder that I'm alone now. It's painful."

Wednesday's hearing will be the House aviation panel's third on the Max. Other witnesses will include representatives from the National Transportation Safety Board and unions representing pilots, flight attendants, airline mechanics and safety inspectors.

The jet's grounding is meanwhile having an impact on airlines around the world, with Europe's busiest carrier, Ryanair, saying Tuesday it will cut flights and close some bases beginning this winter because of the delay to deliveries of the Boeing planes. It expects the Max jets to be back in service before the end of the year, though the date is uncertain.

American Airlines and United Airlines this month both said they will keep the Boeing 737 Max plane off their schedule until Nov. 3, leading to flight cancellations. (AP)

Environment

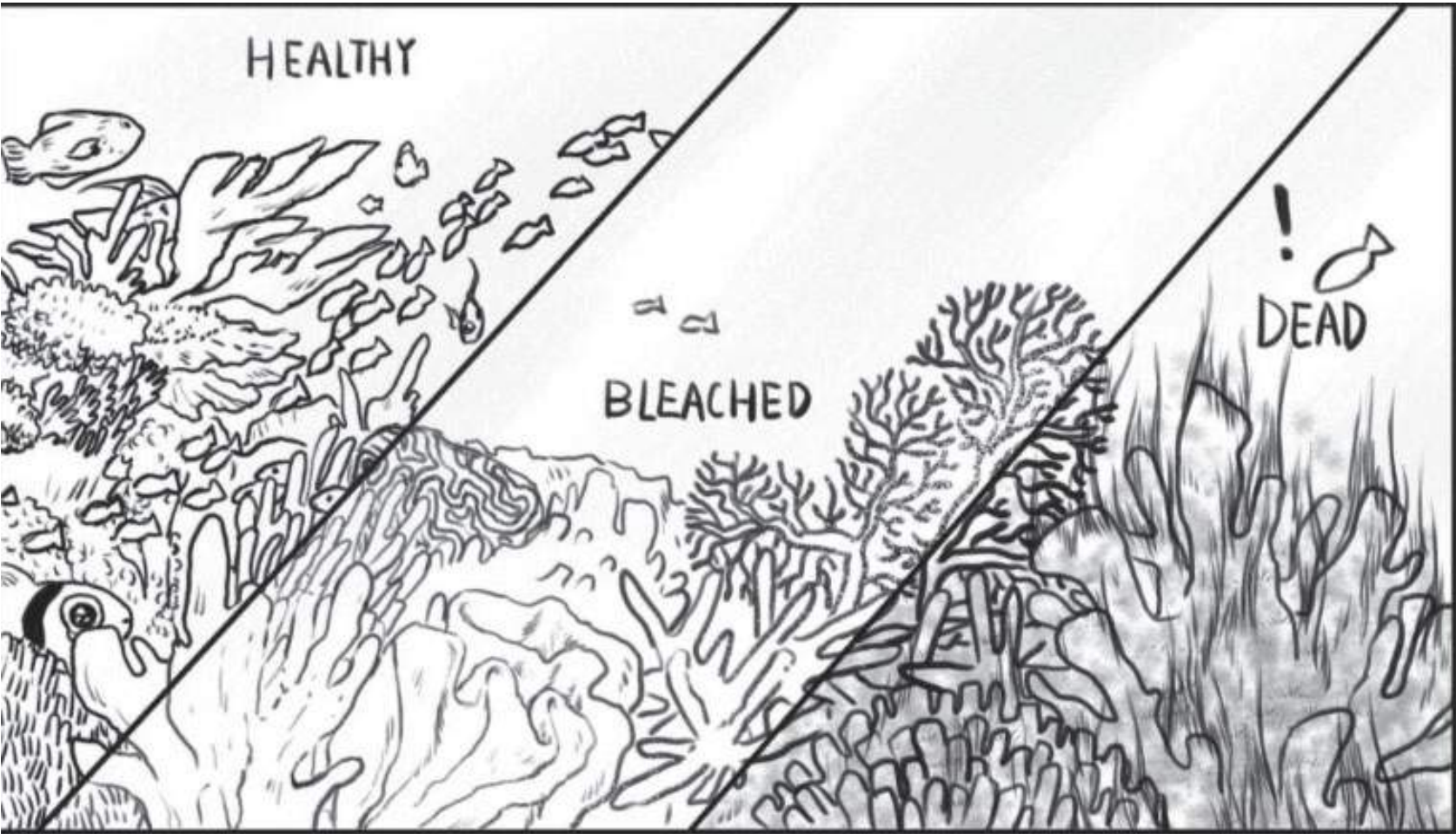
By CERIJEAN F. MANGUBAT
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

With the increasing temperature of our planet, the climate stress on our reefs have caused devastatingly widespread coral bleaching, endangering our islands and lifestyle. With the most severe bleaching incidents in 2014, 2016, with 2017 having had the worst effects to our local reefs, more corals are subject to the effects of climate change in the near future.

Coral bleaching occurs when healthy coral becomes stressed due to continuous exposure to warm temperatures. Although it is possible to reverse its bleaching, recovery can only be done with about 10 years of undisturbed and stable climate waters. The Marine Monitoring Team at the Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) has confirmed that not only do we have a local coral bleaching problem, but also threats to our lagoon as well. Blue-green algae (cyanobacteria) blooms contain toxic chemicals that can harm wildlife and humans when ingested or by direct contact. While they can occur naturally, nutrient-rich waters from industrial inland run-off is one of the main factors to their persistent growth. Unfortunately, blue-green algae is not the normal diet of most fish and because of this, they often overgrow and further stress the aquatic life.

As climate change continues to affect our planet and

Is climate change real?



islands, it becomes increasingly crucial for drastic measures to be made. Actions to combat this can be through several strategies, such as reducing one's carbon footprint, switching off and unplugging unused appliances and electronics, turning off your water, disposing of chemi-

cals responsibly their run-off towards the ocean, and planting more greenery wherever possible, be it a community project or as home plants. Having a healthy ecosystem

to lessen for our marine wildlife is necessary in order to assure a stable economy. Local fisheries and environmental tourism heavily rely on local sea life for revenue. Being careful with how we

interact in the environment has become that much more critical, no matter how small it may be, every act matters. Protecting our lagoons and reefs means ensuring a stable and healthy community.

Cerijean F. Mangubat is a student at the Northern Marianas

College and currently serves as a summer intern with the Division of Coastal Resources Management. This article is the first of a short series that discusses the significance of DCRM's areas of particular concern and why these resources are subject to special management standards.

» DCRM area of particular concern: Lagoon and reefs

DDT contaminants in marine mammals may threaten California condor recovery

By BRADLEY J. FIKES
THE SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE

SAN DIEGO—The California condor's dramatic recovery from near-extinction was aided by removal of toxic substances from the land, which accumulated in animals whose carrion they ate.

But that recovery may be threatened in coastal condors by DDT-related contaminants in marine mammals, according to a preliminary study led by a San Diego State University researcher.

Coastal-dwelling condors have more of these compounds than those living inland, the study found. These are presumably absorbed from marine mammal carcasses, said study leader Maggie Stack. This might explain why coastal condors have thinner eggshells than those inland.

The preliminary findings were reported Wednesday by a team led by Stack, a California Sea Grant trainee and a graduate student at San Diego State Uni-



James Matayoshi, the mayor of Rongelap Atoll, says "What they're saying is, here is the dome. And here, in the lagoon area, there is radiation...But as far as leaking from the dome, we don't think that's the case?" "That doesn't make sense." The U.S. Department of Energy has disclosed high levels of radiation in giant clams in a lagoon near the Runit Dome, where the U.S. entombed radioactive waste from U.S. nuclear testing in the Marshall Islands almost four decade ago.

versity. Because the study has not been peer-reviewed, it requires further validation before it can be published, Stack said.

If the link is confirmed, reintroduced condors can be given a better chance of survival by choosing locations with a lower level of these contaminants, Stack said.

Condor populations have recovered from a low of 22 wild birds in 1986 to about 300 living in the wild today.

The conservation work is assisted by the San Diego Zoo, which nurtures chicks from captive birds at the San Diego Zoo Safari Park.

Stack and colleagues analyzed the blood of coastal and

inland condors, looking for halogenated compounds, a class to which DDT belongs. These are considered to be endocrine disruptors, which lower reproductive success, Stack said.

The work mainly concerned tris (4-chlorophenyl) methane (TCPM), a chemical related to DDT. While effective against diseases such as malaria, the insecticide's harm to wildlife has led to its use being greatly restricted.

TCPM appears to be an impurity from the manufacture of DDT, Stack said. Other DDT-related compounds have been found in coastal condors, and these also represent a risk, Stack said.

Previous research has indicated the potential for harm. DDT-related compounds are accumulating in Southern California bottlenose dolphins, according to a study from Scripps Institution of Oceanography. It was published in 2016 in Environmental Science & Technology.

Contaminants such as lead and antifreeze have long been known to poison condors. The California Condor Recovery Program of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, targeted these contaminants for removal, as well as promoting conservation programs. Under a state law that went into effect July 1, lead ammunition is banned for wildlife hunting.

Stack's research recently won first place in the interdisciplinary category at the California State University's 33rd Annual Research Competition, along with the best graduate student presentation at the Society for Toxicology and Environmental Chemistry meeting.

Others in the study include Jennifer Cossaboon of UC Davis; SDSU researchers including Stack's graduate advisor Eunha Hoh, Nathan Dodder and Jade Johnson; along with Christopher Tubbs, Ignacio Vilchis, and Rachel Felton, all with San Diego Zoo Global.

The study was funded by California Sea Grant.

Life & Style

LOS ANGELES (AP)—HBO's "Game of Thrones" slashed its way to a record-setting 32 Emmy nominations Tuesday for its eighth and final season, leading HBO back to dominance over Netflix, the streaming service that bumped it last year from atop the increasingly crowded television heap.

The bloodthirsty saga's total eclipsed the all-time series record of 27 nods earned by "NYPD Blue" in 1994.

If "Game of Thrones" successfully defends its best drama series title and claims a fourth trophy, it will join the quartet of most-honored dramas that includes "Hill Street Blues," "L.A. Law," "The West Wing" and "Mad Men."

The Emmy voters' acclaim stands in sharp contrast to fan reaction to the show's last hurrah, which included howls of laughter for a to-go coffee cup inadvertently included in one scene and a finale that detractors called unsatisfying. But the show's ratings never faltered for the series based on George R.R. Martin's novels, setting new highs for HBO.

A wealth of recognition for the cast and guest stars, including the show's only previous winner, Peter Dinklage with three awards, helped "Game of Thrones" add to its already record haul of nominations, now at 161 total.

Series star Emilia Clarke's decision to seek a best actress nomination after a series of supporting actress bids paid off. She's competing in a category that's notable for its diversity, including past winner Viola Davis for "How to Get Away with Murder" and repeat nominee Sandra Oh for "Killing Eve," who has another chance to become the first actress of Asian descent to win the trophy. She lost last year to Claire Foy for Netflix's "The Crown."

Two actors of color, Billy Porter for "Pose" and previous winner Sterling K. Brown for "This Is Us," earned drama series nods.

The rest of the drama series field includes "Better Call Saul," "Bodyguard," "Killing Eve," "Ozark," "Pose," "Succession" and, as the only network entry, "This Is Us." Mandy Moore, who plays the NBC drama's matriarch, earned her first best actress nod, with fellow cast member Chris Sullivan earning his first nod, for supporting actor.

Last year's best comedy series, "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel," led the comedy pack with 20 bids, including for its star and defending champion Rachel Brosnahan.

"I'm at the dog park this morning with my four children and started getting a lot of texts and phone calls all at once. I'm so excited to learn that the 'Maisel' family has been invited back to the party. This category is ridiculous. I can't believe I get to be a part of anything with these amazing women," Brosnahan told The Associated Press.

She'll vie with Emmy record-holder Julia Louis-Dreyfus of "Veep,"



This image released by HBO shows Emilia Clarke, left, and Kit Harington in a scene from the final episode of "Game of Thrones." AP

'Game of Thrones' reigns with record 32 Emmy nominations

who didn't compete in last year's awards because her breast cancer treatment delayed production of the political satire. Louis-Dreyfus, who with Cloris Leachman shares the record for most Emmys won by a performer, eight, has a shot at solo glory

if she wins again.

The final season of "Veep" received nine nominations, including a best supporting actress bid for Anna Chlumsky.

"I'm feeling really jazzed. It might be the coffee I just had. But this feels

so much sweeter because it's the last time around for this show," she said.

There was no warm and fuzzy goodbye for "The Big Bang Theory," the long-running sitcom that failed to capture a best comedy nod or any for its actors. The show has company in

FACTS AND FIGURES

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Some facts and figures about Tuesday's nominations for the 71st Emmy Awards:

EMMYS SO WHITE? (AGAIN)

This year's group of nominees saw a significant drop in diversity from 2018, when more than a third of the 101 nominees in acting categories were ethnic minorities. This year the figure was less than a quarter.

Diversity was especially missing in comedy. Just two of the 26 acting nominees were people of color—Anthony Anderson for "black-ish" and Don Cheadle for "Black Monday"—and three of the four categories had all-white nominees.

Categories dominated by the overwhelmingly white "Game of Thrones" were also short on inclusion, including supporting actress in a drama, with zero nominees of color.

FILM STARS GET THEIR FIRST EMMY NOMS

A number of high-profile film stars are among the first-time Emmy nominees this year. They include Amy Adams, a six-time Oscar nominee, for "Sharp Objects"; Hugh Grant, a five-time Golden Globe nominee, for "A Very English Scandal"; Oscar and Golden Globe winner Benicio Del Toro, for "Escape at Dannemora"; and Oscar and Globe nominee Rosa-

mund Pike, for "State of the Union."

FROM RED CARPET STAR TO EMMY NOMINEE

Billy Porter is already a Tony winner, for "Kinky Boots," and of course a huge star of the red carpet with his groundbreaking, eye-catching fashions. Now, he's also an Emmy nominee, for "Pose."

KONDO CLEANS UP

She's already helped you unclutter your closet. Now Marie Kondo may have a shiny object to clutter up her own mantlepiece: She's nominated for "Tidying Up with Marie Kondo."

GoT IS STILL NOT THE GOAT

Yes, "Game of Thrones" copped 32 Emmy nods, a record for a TV show in a single year. The HBO drama now holds a whopping 161 nominations in its history.

Is that the most for any show? Nope!

That would be "Saturday Night Live," with 270 nominations overall.

MOVE OVER NETFLIX: HBO IS BACK

Thanks to "Game of Thrones," HBO has reclaimed its own throne when it comes to Emmy nominations.

The cable network scored 137 nominations, including that "Thrones" record. They include lead

acting nods for Emilia Clarke and Kit Harington. Also getting multiple nods for the network were "Chernobyl" and "Barry."

Netflix had ended HBO's 17-year reign last year, but came in second this year with 117. Among broadcast networks, NBC had 58 nods, CBS 43, ABC 26 and Fox scored 18.

Among streamers, Amazon's Prime Video came in second to Netflix with 47 nods.

ANOTHER MILESTONE SHOT FOR JULIA LOUIS-DREYFUS

TV's beloved comedy queen, Julia Louis-Dreyfus, was nominated for her ninth Emmy, for "Veep." If she wins, she'll surpass Cloris Leachman, with whom she is now tied for eight, for most Emmys won by a female performer.

The late Mary Tyler Moore has seven, as does Allison Janney, snubbed this year for "Mom."

NOMINATED ONSCREEN AND OFF

Let nobody say Phoebe Waller-Bridge is not multi-talented—or multi-nominated. The writer-actress was nominated this year for best leading actress in a comedy, for "Fleabag," AND for writing in a comedy, also for "Fleabag." Last year, she was nominated for writing in a drama series, for "Killing Eve."

other hit sitcoms of the past: Neither "Friends" nor "Frasier" were nominated for best series for their final year, both in 2004.

TV academy members' out-with-the-old approach created openings for a number of buzzy comedy newcomers and their stars and creators, including Phoebe Waller-Bridge's "Fleabag" and Natasha Lyonne's "Russian Doll." Other best comedy contenders include "Barry," which won acting trophies last year for Bill Hader and Henry Winkler, and sole network entry "The Good Place."

A surprising entry: the quirky "Schitt's Creek," which received its first best comedy series nomination for its penultimate season and bids for stars Eugene Levy and Catherine O'Hara.

Other top nominees include the nuclear disaster miniseries "Chernobyl" with 19 nominations and "Saturday Night Live," which drew on Robert De Niro's talents to play Robert Mueller last season, with 18. "When They See Us," the miniseries that dramatized the Central Park Five case and its aftermath, received 16 bids.

"Thank you to the real men for inviting me to tell their story," tweeted Ava DuVernay, executive producer of "When They See Us."

The leading miniseries nominee is "Fosse/Verdon," the biopic about dancer Gwen Verdon and choreographer Bob Fosse that earned 17 bids, including the first Emmy nominations for stars Michelle Williams and Sam Rockwell.

There was a significant drop in diversity among this year's group of nominees compared to 2018, when more than a third of the 101 nominees in acting categories were ethnic minorities. This year, the figure was less than a quarter, with diversity especially absent in comedy.

Just two of the 26 acting nominees were people of color—Anthony Anderson for "black-ish" and Don Cheadle for "Black Monday"—and three of the four categories had only white nominees.

Categories dominated by the overwhelmingly white "Game of Thrones" were also short on inclusion, including supporting actress in a drama—zero nominees—and supporting drama actor, with only Giancarlo Esposito of "Better Call Saul" receiving a nomination.

In the overall tally contest among outlets, HBO received a whopping 137 nominations Tuesday, riding the dragon wings of "Game of Thrones" and the big tallies for "Chernobyl" and "Barry." Netflix, which last year ended HBO's 17-year reign to win the most Emmy nominations, was bumped to second this year with 117. Amazon's Prime Video was second to Netflix among streamers with 47 nominations.

Broadcast networks, steadily eclipsed by the rise of cable and now streaming, were far behind, with NBC getting 58 nods to top CBS' 43, ABC's 26 and Fox's 18.

The 71st Emmy Awards will air Sept. 22 on Fox, with the host yet to be announced.

Judge orders R. Kelly held in jail without bond in sex case

CHICAGO (AP)—A federal judge on Tuesday ordered R. Kelly held in jail without bond after a prosecutor warned that the singer accused of having sex with minors and trying to cover up the crimes would pose an extreme danger to young girls if set free.

"If he was attracted to middle school girls in 1999 then he's still attracted to middle school girls," Assistant U.S. Attorney Angel Krull told U.S. District Judge Harry Leinenweber. "That's who the defendant is and that, your honor, makes him a danger today."

Leinenweber said that under federal law Kelly would have to prove that he was not a danger to the public and Kelly's attorney, Steve Greenberg, had failed to do so.

Kelly was arrested while walking his dog in Chicago last week and faces an array of sex-related charges in Chicago and New York. Appearing in court wearing an orange jumpsuit and shackled at the ankles, he said only two words, "Yes, sir," when the judge asked him if he understood the charges. Two women who recently lived with Kelly, Azriel Clary and Joycelyn Savage, attended the court hearing Tuesday.

The ruling Tuesday means that Kelly, who pleaded not guilty to the charges contained in the Chicago indictment, will remain in custody to face a separate indictment in New York. He is charged there with racketeering, kidnapping, forced labor and the sexual exploitation of a child.

It was unclear when that hearing would be held and if he would have to be transported to New York for the hearing, or could appear via a video linkup from Chicago.



In this June 6, 2019, file photo, singer R. Kelly pleaded not guilty to 11 additional sex-related felonies during a court hearing before Judge Lawrence Flood at Leighton Criminal Court Building in Chicago. AP

The decision to deny bond also raised the possibility that the 52-year-old Kelly could spend the rest of his life behind bars. Renato Mariotti, a former federal prosecutor in

Chicago, said that "each of the federal indictments could take one to two years to go to trial." Depending on delays in the case, Mariotti said Kelly's stay in jail awaiting trial could

go on a lot longer than that.

Krull portrayed Kelly as a predator who went to great lengths to find young girls and kept them under his control. She said that the evidence in

the federal indictments against him is overwhelming. If convicted, the maximum sentence for the charges contained in the Illinois indictment is 195 years in prison and 80 years for the charges contained in the New York indictment.

Kelly, whose real name is Robert Sylvester Kelly, was first arrested on sex-related charges in 2002 after a video of Kelly having sex with 14-year-old girl was sent to the Chicago Sun-Times. After extensive delays, a Chicago jury acquitted him in 2008 in part because the girl did not testify at the trial.

Krull said Kelly was acquitted only because he paid off the victim and her family. She said the alleged victim in that video has since testified before a federal grand jury and confirmed it was her.

"Electronic monitoring can't stop obstruction of jus-

tice, witness tampering..." Krull said. "He can entice victims to his own home."

Kelly's legal troubles mounted when he was arrested in February and charged with 10 counts in Illinois of sexually abusing three girls and a woman. He pleaded not guilty to those charges and was released on bail.

Then on May 30, Cook County prosecutors added 11 sex-related counts involving one of the women who accused him of sexually abusing her when she was underage. The federal charges filed last week are separate from the Illinois case.

Greenberg said preparing for trial will be a long process made even more difficult because Kelly does not know how to read and therefore someone must visit him in jail to read him the reams of documents the case will generate.

25 years later, 'The Lion King' roars again (with Beyoncé)

LOS ANGELES (AP)—It was just a few months ago that director Jon Favreau was sitting in a scoring session with composer Hans Zimmer for "The Lion King," his ambitious and technology-driven reimagining of the 1994 animated classic, and he and everyone else in the room were getting a little emotional.

It's no wonder: They were recording the music for the stampede (yes, THAT stampede).

"Working on it doesn't make it any less emotional," Favreau said in an interview earlier this year.

And don't even get him started on what it was like to listen to James Earl Jones record his lines as Mufasa.

"The Lion King" is three

years in the making with some of the biggest names in entertainment, including Beyoncé, and the expectations couldn't be higher. None of the other major studios have even dared to go up against it in theaters this weekend. Early tracking suggest that it could make as much as \$150 million in its first weekend in North America, and it's already grossed over \$55 million in China.

It helps, of course, that the material is familiar to most of the world already. The animated film, which opened in June 1994 at the peak of the Disney animation renaissance, went on to become a critical hit, the highest grossing film of the year at the

worldwide box office (it was second domestically to "Forrest Gump"), a two-time Oscar winner for Zimmer's score and the song "Can You Feel the Love Tonight," and a Broadway show—now the third-longest running and one of the most successful in history. So it was only a matter of time before the Walt Disney Co., in this new era of live-action remakes of its animated library which this year included both "Dumbo" and "Aladdin," turned to one of its most beloved.

Favreau wasn't even finished with his version of "The Jungle Book" when he started inquiring about plans for "The Lion King." He'd learned so much about motion capture

technology and had a team he knew how to collaborate with. He was ready to take it to the next level. So, he raised his hand for the big job.

"I kind of lobbied for it," Favreau said.

The studio waited until "The Jungle Book" was out to give him the official word, but the 2016 movie which scored with both critics and audiences, turned out to be a pretty good audition. And he set to work prepping this "live-action" "Lion King," which, it should be said isn't live-action at all. It's a combination of virtual reality and "keyframe animation," which means that the animals are all animated by hand, "just like all the old animated movies," Favreau

explained. In other words, if you visited the set, you would not find some gargantuan soundstage and a bunch of actors running around acting like lions while covered in motion capture bodysuits and dots.

Rather, it was more of a "black box with people wearing headsets and VR goggles."

The VR was used to "drive the camera" and "instead of just one layout artist on a computer, we had a full crew operating virtual cameras in a virtual reality environment," he said.

That includes esteemed cinematographer Caleb Deschanel, a six-time Oscar nominee.

The resulting special effect is that "It should feel like a live-action movie," he said, even if it's technically animated.

Revelation at bachelor party throws wedding into question

DEAR ABBY: My sister-in-law "June" is being married soon. I will be the matron of honor. My husband, "Jake," June's brother, will be a groomsman for her fiancé, "Jimmy." Not only is Jake going to be a groomsman, but he's also supposed to officiate.

Jake went to the bachelor party a couple weeks ago and Jimmy showed all the guys—including my husband—eight (!) naked pictures a girl from work had texted him. He asked my husband if he should tell June about it before the wedding or after, and Jake said he should tell her right away.

Should my husband tell June or leave it up to Jimmy, who may or may not do it? (We don't know what his plans may be about the girl who sent the pictures.)

LOOKING FOR THE RIGHT THING TO DO

DEAR LOOKING: Jimmy may or may not have "plans" for a fling with the woman who texted him the pictures—or it may have already happened. (He could also be an immature braggart, which is why he shared the photos with the other "stags" at the party.) Because Jake now has concerns about Jimmy's character, he should reiterate to Jimmy that if June isn't told before she makes a lifetime commitment, he will tell her. He should also refuse to officiate at a wedding he fears may be a huge mistake.

DEAR ABBY: My husband has late stage dementia and is

in a long-term care center. He had several affairs during our marriage, and if the tables were turned, I'm sure he would be involved with other women while I was receiving care. I realize I should have left him years ago. I visit him several times a month but not every day. I do it out of commitment, not love. Sometimes I feel guilty for not going more often.

I guess I'm asking you for permission to see him when I have time but not every day. I also would like to encourage people who have lost faith in their spouse to make the break before any serious illness sets in. I have no interest in finding another man, but I feel tied down with the burden of seeing him through to the end.

HANGING IN THERE IN OHIO

DEAR HANGING IN: Have a realistic talk with that conscience of yours. Surely the two of you can reach a compromise. This is not the time to punish your husband for his infidelity.

Under the circumstances, because you don't feel your husband deserves to be visited daily, visit a couple of times a week to ensure that he is being properly looked after. And if he isn't, make it your mission to ensure the situation is remedied, as you would want someone to do for you.

DEAR ABBY: This is embarrassing. I am 30 and don't drive. I have extreme anxiety and a learning disorder that affects my visual spatial perception. I try to hide this as much as possible,

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



but I'm worried the truth will come out. Should I disclose it to employers? New friends? Acquaintances?

PANICKED IN PENNSYLVANIA

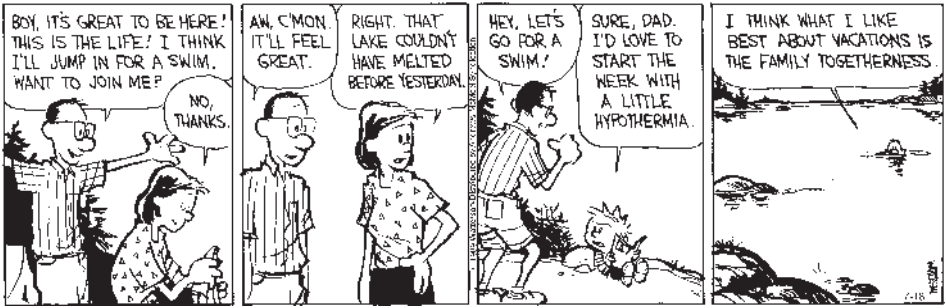
DEAR PANICKED: If there is a medical reason for your inability to perform certain tasks, your employer should be informed. However, I see no reason to reveal this to acquaintances or new friends. Fewer people drive these days, and many of them don't because of the expense involved or access to public transportation.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



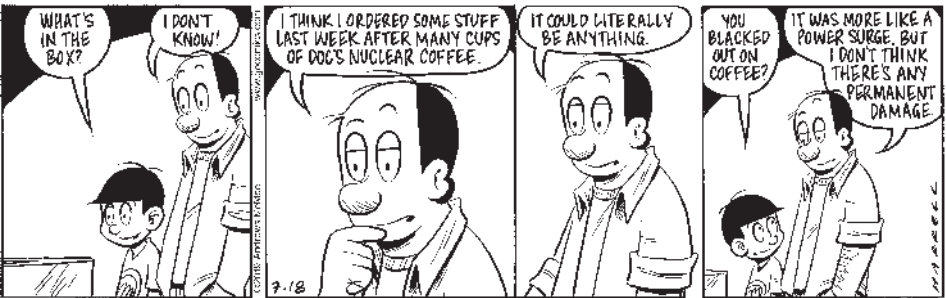
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



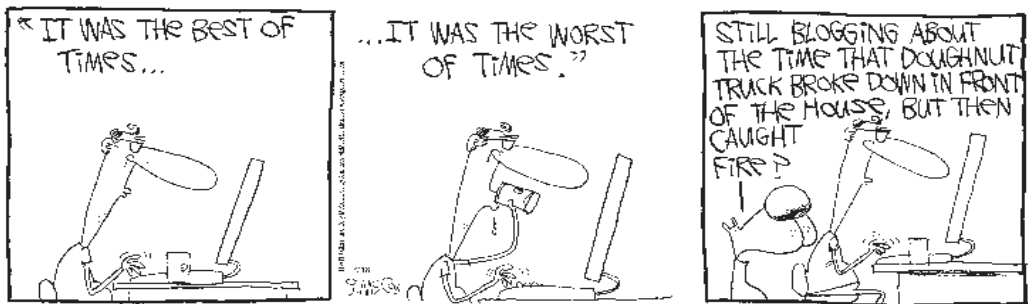
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

- 1 Iowa city
- 5 Pallid
- 8 Jacob's twin
- 12 Hum-dinger
- 13 "Aladdin" monkey
- 14 Cowardly Lion
- 15 Thames town
- 16 However
- 17 Tehran's country
- 18 Mail, as payment
- 20 Juanita's home
- 22 Typical fellow
- 26 Phoebe of "Gremlins"
- 29 Exploit
- 30 Prior night
- 31 Has bills
- 32 Metal source
- 33 Satan's forte
- 34 Stanley Cup org.
- 35 Bikini top
- 36 Trudges

DOWN

- 1 Pub
- 2 TV remote
- 3 Carolina college
- 4 Ice-cream parlor
- 5 Hockey great
- 6 Honest politician
- 7 Wacko
- 8 Beethoven's "Für —"
- 9 1984 Winter Olympics site
- 10 "Caught ya!"
- 11 Ornate vase
- 19 Hosp. hookups
- 21 Bio stat
- 23 Countri-fied
- 24 "Meta-morphoses" poet
- 25 Congers
- 26 Pt. of speech
- 27 "Horton Hears —"
- 28 Lengthy on-the-air fundraiser
- 32 Florida city
- 33 Graceful
- 35 Physique
- 36 Links org.
- 38 Uses a phone
- 39 Glowing coal
- 42 Entreaty
- 43 "Believe — not!"
- 44 Billions of years
- 45 Badly lit
- 46 Citrus drink
- 48 Sailor's assent

Solution time: 24 mins.

Yesterday's answer 7-18

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Chace Crawford, 34; Kristen Bell, 39; Vin Diesel, 52; Wendy Williams, 55.

Happy Birthday: Move full speed ahead. Let your unique sense of awareness and drive help you develop and accomplish what you want to unfold this year. Partnerships are highlighted and can help you reach your goal quicker if you are willing to work as a team player. Stick to those who share, not those who want to run the show. Your numbers are 7, 18, 22, 27, 35, 38, 41.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Look outside your immediate circle for answers. Being too close to a situation can cloud your vision. A different perspective will change the way you handle others as well as the way you move forward. Protect your position and your reputation. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Make a change for the right reason, not because you are emotionally attached to someone or something. Anger will solve nothing, but you will make progress if you take the path of least resistance. Romance and personal improvements should be your goals. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You've got all the right moves. As long as you think matters through and execute your plans with finesse, much can be accomplished. Expand your interests, friendships and knowledge regarding different cultures and places you might want to visit. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Carefully think through matters that can affect your personal finances or health. Consider everyone involved and how you can come out on top without facing controversy. Relationships should be nurtured. Make romance a priority. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Think before you act. Letting your emotions or your ego take over will not open doors and probably will bring about an unexpected and unwanted turn of events. Take your time; live with a situation until you have all the facts. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Be careful what you say to your peers. Someone will take you the wrong way and reiterate something to others that could make you look bad. Handle all matters personally. Plan something special for someone you love. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Communication may cost you emotionally if you are preaching to someone who will never see things your way. Stick to those who share your beliefs and opinions. You will strengthen your position and encourage better friendships. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Do what feels right. Taking action will be in your best interest. If you make a promise, follow through. If you love someone, demonstrate how much. How you handle matters counts. All talk and no action won't suffice. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Take a look at the past and the mistakes you made. Experience can help deter getting into a jam that isn't necessary. Don't let money matters or joint endeavors ruin a relationship. Keep your assets and your belongings separate. ★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Work behind the scenes perfecting whatever it is you are trying to accomplish. Changes can be made, but only after you have taken care of every detail. Being too accommodating or open with the wrong person will lead to a setback. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Look at the possibilities, and refuse to let anyone stand in your way. Giving in to someone who is being difficult will make you angry and disappointed in the way you handled matters. Do things that will benefit you, not someone else. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Share your ideas with like-minded people. Set a plan in motion that will bring you closer to your goal. Refuse to go overboard because someone is pressuring you. Know your limits as well as your expectations. Romance is highlighted. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are impulsive, entertaining and active. You are diligent and impressive.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit EugeniaLast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Difficulty Level ★★★

7/18

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

Difficulty Level ★★★

7/18

WONDERWORD

By DAVID CUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

TIGER WOODS IS BACK Solution: 12 letters

B B B U L C C M Y R O T C I V
O T I H R U O T A G P U R S E
G E O R G I A U W S T R O P S
E L A N D S E E R T T P I N
Y D Y M T I P M I S R E X Z E
I R A P O U E R A O E E R K E
E I L R A H C E F N L S C S R
T C P N O A A E E A K I S G
T K I L N T S R M N U C N S
U F E T S S G A A B L H I J
P S L U I O S C F I T P W A
U A G O L L I S L L I K S E C
Y U N F E R O J A M D O O W K
A A E X E C O M E B A C K S E
L R A E S T A T S I E L T I T

2019 American McGraw-Hill Education www.wonderword.com 7/18
Augusta, Axel, Birdie, Bogey, Buick, Cantlay, Career, Charlie, Club, Comeback, Courses, Earl, Eldrick, Erica, Fairway, Fame, Finau, Georgia, Golfer, Greens, Holes, Jacket, Kuitida, Lay Up, Major, Masters, News, Nickname, Nike, Par, PGA Tour, Play, Prize, Professional, Purse, Putt, Sam Alexis, Skills, Sport, Stats, Titleist, Tont, Trees, Victory, Wins, Wood
Yesterday's Answer: Cousins
The NEW Volume 56 can be purchased online at: www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

CLASSIFIED ADS

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Are you tired of high priced cable TV? How about free? Ask me how! Plus, offers a very lucrative pay plan. We are international. <http://infiniteincome.net>. Questions, call Dixie 214 735 3727.

WHATZIT Solution:
Take it on the chin



GPPC, INC.
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
(5) ACCOUNTING TECHNICIAN - \$8.84 to 14.42 per hour

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Compute, classify, and record numerical data to keep financial records complete. Perform any combination of routine calculating, posting, and verifying duties to obtain primary financial data for use in maintaining accounting records. May also check the accuracy of figures, calculations, and postings pertaining to business transactions recorded by other workers. Operate computers programmed with accounting software to record, store, and analyze information. Check figures, postings, and documents for correct entry, mathematical accuracy, and proper codes. Comply with federal, state, and company policies, procedures, and regulations. Operate 11-key calculators, typewriters, and copy machines to perform calculations and produce documents. Receive, record, and bank cash, checks, and vouchers.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:

- High School Graduate or its equivalence;
- At least 24 months experience in bookkeeping, accounting or auditing clerk; &
- Must be knowledgeable in operating PC, adding machine, electric typewriter, accounting software such as QuickBooks and/or PeachTree.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

GPPC, INC.
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
(06) Electricians - \$8.78-\$8.78 per hour

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Install, maintain, and repair electrical wiring, equipment, and fixtures. Ensure that work is in accordance with relevant codes. May install or service street lights, intercom systems, or electrical control systems. Plan layout and installation of electrical wiring, equipment, or fixtures, based on job specifications and local codes. Connect wires to circuit breakers, transformers, or other components. Test electrical systems or continuity of circuits in electrical wiring, equipment, or fixtures, using testing devices, such as ohmmeters, voltmeters, or oscilloscopes, to ensure compatibility and safety of system. Use a variety of tools or equipment, such as power construction equipment, measuring devices, power tools, and testing equipment, such as oscilloscopes, ammeters, or test lamps. Inspect electrical systems, equipment, or components to identify hazards, defects, or the need for adjustment or repair, and to ensure compliance with codes.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:

- HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE;
- AT LEAST 24 MONTHS EXPERIENCE
- KNOWLEDGE IN USING MEASURING DEVICES, POWER TOOLS AND TESTING EQUIPMENT SUCH AS OHMMETERS, VOLTMETERS, OSCILLOSCOPES, AMMETERS, OR TEST LAMPS.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

GPPC, INC.
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
(15) H. E. Mechanics \$8.14 to \$9.00 per hour

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul mobile mechanical, hydraulic, and pneumatic equipment, such as cranes, bulldozers, graders, and conveyors, used in construction, logging, and surface mining. Repair and replace damaged or worn parts. Test mechanical products and equipment after repair or assembly to ensure proper performance and compliance with manufacturers' specifications. Operate and inspect machines or heavy equipment to diagnose defects. Read and understand operating manuals, blueprints, and technical drawings. Dismantle and reassemble heavy equipment using hoists and hand tools.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:

- HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE;
- AT LEAST 24 MONTHS EXPERIENCE
- KNOWLEDGE IN HOIST, HAND TOOLS AND TESTERS.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

GPPC, INC.
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
(15) Maintenance Technicians \$8.11 to \$8.50 per hour

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Perform work involving the skills of two or more maintenance or craft occupations to keep machines, mechanical equipment, or the structure of an establishment in repair. Duties may involve pipe fitting, boiler making; insulating; welding; machining; carpentry; repairing electrical or mechanical equipment; installing, aligning, and balancing new equipment; and repairing buildings, floors, or stairs. Inspect, operate, or test machinery or equipment to diagnose machine malfunctions. Dismantle machines, equipment, or devices to access and remove defective parts, using hoists, cranes, hand tools, or power tools. Perform routine maintenance, such as inspecting drives, motors, or belts, checking fluid levels, replacing filters, or doing other preventive maintenance actions. Diagnose mechanical problems and determine how to correct them, checking blueprints, repair manuals, or parts catalogs, as necessary.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:

- HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE;
- AT LEAST 24 MONTHS EXPERIENCE
- KNOWLEDGE IN USING HAND AND POWER TOOLS SUCH AS CORDLESS POWER DRILLS, POWER CIRCULAR SAWS AND PULLERS.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

GPPC, INC.
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
(01) Truck Driver 8.00 to 8.35 per hour

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Drive a tractor-trailer combination or a truck with a capacity of at least 26,000 pounds Gross Drive a tractor-trailer combination or a truck with a capacity of at least 26,000 pounds Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW). May be required to unload truck. Requires commercial drivers' license. Check vehicles to ensure that mechanical, safety, and emergency equipment is in good working order. Follow appropriate safety procedures for transporting dangerous goods. Inspect loads to ensure that cargo is secure. Maintain logs of working hours or of vehicle service or repair status, following applicable state and federal regulations. Secure cargo for transport, using ropes, blocks, chain binders, or covers. Vehicle Weight (GVW). May be required to unload truck. Requires commercial drivers' license. Check vehicles to ensure that mechanical, safety, and emergency equipment is in good working order. Follow appropriate safety procedures for transporting dangerous goods. Inspect loads to ensure that cargo is secure. Maintain logs of working hours or of vehicle service or repair status, following applicable state and federal regulations. Secure cargo for transport, using ropes, blocks, chain binders, or covers.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:

- High School Graduate
- At least 12 months experience
- Should possess a CNMI, Driver's License

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

IAM CORPORATION DBA JEJU AIR SAIPAN LOUNGE
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) TOUR GUIDE
JOB DUTIES:
Describe tour points of interest to group members, and respond to questions, escort individuals, or groups to cruises, sightseeing tours or thru places of interest such as individual establishments, public buildings, and art galleries, conduct education activities for school for school children, monitor visitors activities, to ensure compliance with establishment or tour regulations and safety practices, provide directions and other pertinent information to visitors.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Must be high school graduate
- With at least 6 months work experience as tour guide
- With customer service-oriented person
- With good moral character
- Able to read and speak in Korean language

Salary: 9.23/hr
These job opportunities are temporary full-time position

(2) TRAVEL AGENTS
JOB DUTIES:
Plan and sell transportation and accommodations for travel agency customers, determine destination modes of transportation, travel dates, costs and accommodations required, may also described plan and arrange itineraries and sell tour packages, may assist in resolving clients travel problems.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Must be high school graduate
- With one-year work experience as travel agent
- With computer skills required
- Able to read and understand English and Korean language
- And can communicate with our main office in Korea

Salary: 14.84/hr to 18.00/hr
These job opportunities are temporary full-time position

Interested Applicants can email their resume to jejuloungesaipan@naver.com Or fax to 233-3004 or can call office number 233-3004 for more information from Monday to Friday between the hours of 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

TWO HONG CORPORATION
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) CHEF COOK
JOB DUTIES:
Direct and may participate in the preparation, seasoning cooking of salads, soup, fish, meats vegetables, desserts and other foods, may plan and price menu items, order supplies and keep records and accounts, monitor sanitation practices to ensure that employees follow standards and regulations, check the quality of raw or cooked food products to ensure that standards are met, estimate amounts and costs of required supplies such as food and ingredients, instruct cooks or other workers in the preparation, cooking, garnishing or preparation of food, supervise or coordinate activities of cooks or workers engaged in food preparation

REQUIREMENTS:

- Must be high school graduate
- With work experience as chef cook in Korean Menus
- With good moral character and can work flexible time

Salary: 14.14/hr
This job opportunity is a temporary full-time position

(2) WAITRESS/WAITER
JOB DUTIES:
Take orders from patrons for food and beverages, check with customers to ensure that they are enjoying their meals and take actions to correct any problems, check patrons identification to ensure that they meet minimum age requirements for consumption of alcoholic beverages, collects payments from customers, write patrons food orders on order slips, memorize orders into computers for transmittal to kitchen staff

REQUIREMENTS:

- Must be high school graduate
- With work experience as waitress
- With good moral character and can work flexible time

Salary: 8.28/hr
This job opportunity is a temporary full-time position

This job opportunity is a temporary full-time position
Interested Applicants can email their resume to iteunteun@gmail.com or can call office number 233-1515 for more information from Monday to Friday between the hours of 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a complete 5-day run of liner ads, for as low as \$15 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS

- 3-Liner **\$15**
- 5-Liner **\$24**

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

E & F CORPORATION
Has an opening for
RESERVATIONS SALES AGENT (1)

Job Duties:

- 1.) Make arrangements for Hotel/Restaurant/Optional Tour Reservations of tourist customers.
- 2.) Make daily schedules for Korean customer's trip itinerary.
- 3.) Make Inquiry on hotel availability.
- 4.) Coordinate with tourist customers/hotels/restaurants/optional tour companies in making any requests from tourist customers.
- 5.) Coordinate with Tour Companies in Korea in regards with upcoming/arriving tourist customers.
- 6.) Make reports on daily tour activities.
- 7.) Make Hotel/Restaurant/optional tour payments.

Requirements:

- At least High school Graduate.
- Must be knowledgeable in computer programs (Excel, Word and Online Reservation System)
- Must know how to operate simple office machines such as fax/telephone and computer.
- Good verbal and written communication skill required.
- Must be able to read, write and speak Korean Language for better communications with the main office and with the customers.
- At least 1 year related experience in travel/tourism industry.
- Police clearance required.
- Valid Driver's License Required.
- Previous Job Certificate required.

Salary: \$ 8.54 per hour
This is a temporary full time position

Interested applicants Send resume to enfcorp17@gmail.com or call 1-670-234-1667 (Monday- Friday 9am to 6pm, except holidays)

E & F CORPORATION
Has an opening for
TOUR GUIDE (3)

Job Duties:

- 1.) Handle pre-arrange package tours & activities surrounding in-bound tours, have the ability to carry out activities numerated in the package tour.
- 2.) Prepares reports on tour activities, correspond with tour activities.
- 3.) Correspond with tour operators in Korea.
- 4.) Prepare exit & arrival schedules.
- 5.) Formulate, organize and execute an attractive and competitive tour package to be sold to Korean tourists, who are based in Korea.
- 6.) Confirms reservations, arranges sales of optional tours or services.
- 7.) Assist in selling of optional tours, assist customers on daily basis in explaining all the optional tours and rental items available and perform other duties as assigned or as required.
- 8.) Explain the different optional tours available on the island.
- 9.) Explain and inform tourist customers about the different historic tourist spots on the island to give each customer knowledge about the islands history and its significance to the people of Saipan.

Requirements:

- Two years related experience in Tour/ Travel Industry.
- Must be able to speak, read and write the Korean language for better communication with the tourist customers.
- Computer skill required (Microsoft-Office-Excel/Word)
- At least High school Graduate.
- Traffic and police clearance required- Applied Equally to US and CW-1 Workers.
- Must possess a Tour Guide Certificate from MVA/MNC.
- Must possess a valid CNMI Driver's License.
- Must be willing to work with flexible schedule.
- Previous work experience required- Applied Equally to US and CW-1 Workers.

Salary: \$ 10.36 per hour
This is a temporary full time position

Interested applicants Send resume to enfcorp17@gmail.com or call 1-670-234-1667 (Monday to Friday 9am-6pm, except holiday).

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

SUBTRACT CHIN

WHATZIT? © 2019 www.whatz.com Printed and Published by Freeman McLeod Corporation

www.facebook.com/dingbatgames

Find today's solution in classified section

Paul trade to Miami held up over picks package



MIAMI—Chris Paul is making a stopover in Oklahoma City. The Rockets sent him there for Paul George, but the competitive 34-year-old point guard doesn't want to be part of a long rebuilding project. He wants to be traded again before the season starts.

His preference? Miami, according to Brian Windhorst of ESPN. There, CP3 would team up with Jimmy Butler. Miami is open to the idea, but what has hung the entire thing up is the discussion of picks, Windhorst said on ESPN's SportsCenter on Monday night.

Oklahoma City is rebuilding and the mountain of picks they have compiled through trading George and Westbrook—16 potential first rounders through 2026, including their own, enough to make Danny Ainge think they have too many picks—is at the heart of that plan. While the Thunder can afford to give one or two up, they don't want to.

Miami is saying that to take on Paul's remaining three-years, \$124 million, it want a sweetener. Which is what every team would ask for.

Which brings us to another problem for the Thunder: There is not much of a market for Paul. Miami is the only name really mentioned in negotiations. There is speculation about other potential landing spots, and no doubt some feeler calls have come into Sam Presti in OKC, but the Heat seem to be the only team going down the road of serious talks.

There are other challenges to getting this trade done. For example, the Thunder would love to shed salary (they are still \$3.7 million into the tax) but the Heat are hard-capped after the Jimmy Butler sign-and-trade and cannot absorb any more salary.

The Heat may be the place Paul ultimately lands but finding a deal that works could take some time to bring together.

Suns re-sign Oubre Jr.

Forward Kelly Oubre Jr. re-signed with the Phoenix Suns on Tuesday.

The team said it was a multiyear deal.

Oubre was acquired in a trade with the Washington Wizards for veteran Trevor Ariza last December. He averaged 16.9 points and 4.9 rebounds in 40 games with the Suns to go with his energy on defense. The four-year pro led the NBA in steals per game with 2.1 after the All-Star break, to go with 20.2 points and 5.7 rebounds.

"Right now I'm a Phoenix



Sun, and I'm excited to get better every day with the group of guys that we have,"

the 23-year-old Oubre said. "At the end of the day, I'm super excited about where

we're going and where we're going to be. The sky's the limit for us.

"The numbers don't lie," he added. "You see how my game evolved when I got here

Westbrook officially joins Rockets

Whatever their long-term intentions, after Paul George was traded the Oklahoma City Thunder changed focus. General Manager Sam Presti sat down with Russell Westbrook and his agent, talked about the future, what the former MVP wanted, then worked on trading him where he wanted to go.

That was Houston.

The Westbrook to the Rockets trade for Chris Paul—with Oklahoma City picking up two first-round picks and two pick swaps—is now official.

In announcing the trade, the Thunder praised the greatest player in their franchise history on his way out the door.

"Russell Westbrook is the most important player in the brief history of the Oklahoma City Thunder. He has left an indelible mark on this team, city and state," Presti said in a statement. "None of us could have anticipated the player he has become, and we are all deeply proud of what he has contributed to the success of the franchise and to our community. Russell and his wife Nina, their three children, his brother and his parents will always remain part of the Thunder family. We wish them nothing but happiness

and success in the future."

"I have a great deal of respect for Russell and there is no way to adequately describe our appreciation for what he has meant to Oklahomans," said Thunder Chairman Clayton I. Bennett. "His legacy here is immense, and he will be honored by the team for all he has done. We wish he and Nina and their family all the best. While this era of Thunder basketball now comes to an end, I'm confident our talented team of people will once again position the Thunder for success in the future."

While Presti and the OKC front office are still working on a CP3 trade, they are entering a rebuilding phase.

The Rockets are banking on Westbrook and James Harden being able to work out any fit issues—and finding a way to defend with both of them on the court—to keep them as title contenders.

OKC rebuild will take some time

Yosef Maarroof wanted one more Westbrook memory in Oklahoma City.

When he learned Thursday night the Thunder were planning to send Westbrook to the Houston Rockets for

Paul and draft picks, the 20-year-old Tulsa resident planned to make the two-hour drive to Oklahoma City with friends. They wanted to take videos and photos in front of the large images of Thunder players that adorn Chesapeake Energy Arena during the season, hoping Westbrook's photo would still be up on Friday morning.

It wasn't, so Maarroof came up with a different tribute. In a video he posted on Twitter, he put on the Westbrook jerseys he's collected since 2012, took them off one by one and laid them side by side in front of the arena. He wore 18 in the video, which has been viewed more than 85,000 times.

Maarroof said Westbrook has always been his favorite player. And the next addition to his collection will be a Rockets jersey.

"He was never perfect, but just the emotion he showed—he was very relatable, I feel like," Maarroof said. "He was the underdog. People have always just not appreciated him the way they should have."

With their emotional sparkplug gone, the Thunder, as we knew them, are no more. Westbrook was the last remaining player from the team

that moved from Seattle to Oklahoma City in 2008.

Kevin Durant, Harden, Serge Ibaka, Paul George and others, all gone. Now Westbrook.

He spent his entire 11-year career with the Thunder, despite earlier chances to leave. With Westbrook, the Thunder won at least 45 games for 10 straight years and reached the Western Conference Finals four times, including a run to the NBA Finals in 2012.

Now, they're left with memories and hopes that the rebuild works out sooner than later. And of course, they will have the memories he creates when he comes back with the Rockets. Leslie Mahan, a moderator/administrator for Thunder fan pages on Facebook, believes the fans will welcome Westbrook when he returns.

"I honestly think that each time he comes back here, people are going to love and respect him and not boo him because he did a lot for the team, for the organization and for Oklahoma as a whole," Mahan said.

Westbrook will still have his fans in Oklahoma City.

"I'm still going to be a Thunder fan, but I don't plan on missing a Rockets game this season, either," Maarroof said.

AP
Houston Rockets guard Chris Paul, left, shoots in front of Golden State Warriors' Stephen Curry, center, and Draymond Green during the second half of Game 2 of a second-round NBA basketball playoff series in Oakland, Calif., Tuesday, April 30, 2019.

and it happened the right way. Nothing was given to me."

Oubre returns to a new-look roster that includes star Devin Booker and second-year center Deandre Ayton, plus point guard Ricky Rubio. The Suns also added power forward Dario Saric and center Aron Baynes via trades, and drafted Cameron Johnson with the 11th overall pick last month.

"We added at the positions of need for us, point guard and power forward," Suns general manager James Jones said. "And we kept our core guys intact. I think you had a glimpse of what we can become at the end of last season. Kelly was a big reason for our turnaround. We're just excited to have him back with us."

The Suns made it a priority to retain Oubre, who became a fan favorite for his hustling style of play and all-around game in what was another down season. The Suns went 19-63 last season and haven't finished above .500 since 2013-14.

In Sacramento, the Kings have signed free agent forward Richaun Holmes.

General manager Vlade Divac announced the deal to add depth to his frontcourt on Tuesday. The Athletic reported Holmes will be paid \$10 million over two seasons in Sacramento.

Holmes averaged 8.2 points, 4.7 rebounds and 1.1 blocked shots per game last season for Phoenix. He also shot 60.8% from the field.

Holmes has played four seasons with Philadelphia and the Suns. He has a career average of 7.7 points per game.

In New York, the Knicks have finalized contracts with Marcus Morris and Reggie Bullock, two of their off-season additions.

The forwards join Julius Randle, Bobby Portis, Taj Gibson, Elfrid Payton and Wayne Ellington as free agents who the Knicks hope will improve what was the NBA's worst team last season.

Morris averaged 13.9 points and 6.1 rebounds in 75 games last season for Boston, his fifth straight season scoring more than 10 points per game.

Bullock averaged 11.3 points while playing for Detroit and the Los Angeles Lakers.

Terms of the deals announced Tuesday were not disclosed.

Harper drives in 5 runs, Phillies rally past Dodgers



PHILADELPHIA
(AP)—Bryce

Harper hit a two-run double off Dodgers closer Kenley Jansen with one out in the bottom of the ninth after pinch-hitter Matt Beaty hit a three-run homer off Philadelphia closer Hector Neris in the top half, rallying the Phillies to a 9-8 win over Los Angeles on Tuesday night.

Pinch-hitter Andrew Knapp hit a double with one out in the bottom of the ninth and Cesar Hernandez singled. Scott Kingery followed with a bloop single to center that scored Knapp to get the Phillies within a run. Harper then ripped a ball to the gap that bounced off A.J. Pollock's glove and went to the wall.

Cody Bellinger hit his major league-leading 34th homer and Max Muncy, A.J. Pollock and Joc Pederson also went deep for the Dodgers.

Harper hit a three-run homer and drove in five RBIs, Brad Miller and Kingery also connected for the Phillies.

Ranger Suarez (1-0) got two outs for the win.

Jansen (3-3) has four blown saves in 24 tries.

Yankees 8, Rays 3

In New York, Aaron Judge hit a go-ahead, two-run homer in the eighth inning, Didi Gregorius followed with a grand slam as New York beat Tampa Bay after another surly clash between CC Sabathia and the Rays.

Judge smashed a 3-2 pitch from left-hander Colin Poche (2-3) into the right-center field seats to make it 4-3. It was Judge's 10th homer.

Gregorius took a curtain call after hitting a long grand slam. Edwin Encarnación hit his 28th homer, DJ LeMahieu also went deep, and New York stretched its AL East lead over Tampa Bay to six games.

Yandy Díaz hit a solo homer and an RBI double, and Austin Meadows hit his 14th homer for Tampa Bay.

Bench cleared during the sixth inning amid a shouting match between Sabathia and hitter Avisail García. After Sabathia struck out García looking to strand two runners, the 38-year-old barked and pointed at García. Sabathia was restrained by Gregorius and never got close to García while both benches and bullpens emptied. No punches were thrown.

Blue Jays 10, Red Sox 4

In Boston, Teoscar Hernández hit a three-run homer off new Red Sox starter Andrew Cashner, and Lourdes Gurriel Jr. had three hits to lead Toronto.

Gurriel had a single, double



Philadelphia Phillies' Bryce Harper celebrates after hitting a game-winning two-run double off Los Angeles Dodgers relief pitcher Kenley Jansen during the ninth inning of a baseball game Tuesday, July 16, 2019, in Philadelphia. Philadelphia won, 9-8.

and triple, and Justin Smoak also homered for Toronto, which lost three of its previous four games.

Cashner (9-4) was acquired from the Orioles on Saturday. He failed to get an out in the sixth, allowing six runs—five earned—on eight hits and two walks, striking out two. He also gave up two homers, hit a batter and threw a wild pitch on a third strike.

Nationals 8, Orioles 1

In Baltimore, Matt Adams and Juan Soto homered and rookie Austin Voth extended a streak of strong performances by Washington's rotation in a win over neighboring Orioles.

Washington has won 13 of 16.

Voth (1-0) allowed one run and four hits over six innings. He walked one and hit two batters, all in an eventful but scoreless first inning.

Adams's home run off Asher Wojciechowski (0-3) made him the 102nd player in the 28-year history of Camden Yards to hit a ball onto Eutaw Street, beyond the right field wall and in front of the B&O Warehouse.

Marlins 12, Padres 7

In Miami, Brian Anderson hit a three-run homer in the first inning and Miami dealt San Diego its fourth straight loss.

The Padres (45-49) fell four games under .500 for the first time this season.

Harold Ramirez had two

doubles, two RBIs and two runs scored. Garrett Cooper hit his 11th homer and a two-run single, and Starlin Castro had a bases-loaded triple to make it 11-3 in the sixth.

Jordan Yamamoto (4-0) struggled early and needed 99 pitches to get through five innings, but he gave up only two earned runs.

Pirates 3, Cardinals 1

In St. Louis, Colin Moran drove in the go-ahead run with an infield single and Pittsburgh Pirates scored twice in the ninth to beat the Cardinals.

Francisco Liriano (4-1) pitched the eighth and earned the victory. Felipe Vazquez pitched a 1-2-3 ninth for his 21st save.

Carlos Martinez (2-1) worked one inning of relief and took the loss.

With the score tied 1-1 and one out in the top of the ninth, Starling Marte reached base when he was hit in the back with a pitch by Martinez. Josh Bell beat the shift with a single to the left side of second base, sending Marte to third. Moran hit a sharp grounder to Kolten Wong, who made a diving stop and rose to one knee, but his throw was not in time as Moran slid safely into first and Marte scored for a 2-1 lead.

Corey Dickerson walked, loading the bases. Kevin Newman hit a grounder to short, but the Cardinals failed to turn a double play, and Bell scored

to give Pittsburgh a 3-1 lead.

Angels 7, Astros 2

In Anaheim, Albert Pujols hit a bases-clearing double during a six-run first inning and Los Angeles remained unbeaten in five games since the All-Star break.

Mike Trout missed his second straight game with a mildly strained right calf, but Shohei Ohtani and Luis Rengifo also drove in first-inning runs in Los Angeles' eighth victory in 11 games since the death of pitcher Tyler Skaggs.

Tyler White had three hits and an RBI in the Astros' fourth loss in six games. Their division lead over Oakland is down to 4½ games, matching their smallest advantage since May 9.

Astros opener Héctor Rondón (3-2) gave up six runs on five hits and a walk in just nine batters while failing to get out of the first.

Andrew Heaney pitched eight-hit ball into the fifth inning and got five strikeouts in his second start since the death of Skaggs, his best friend.

Diamondbacks 9, Rangers 2

In Arlington, rookie Alex Young allowed one run in 5 1/3 innings to help Arizona beat Texas.

Young (3-0) gave up three hits and one walk to defeat Lance Lynn (12-5), who went into the game with an 8-0 home record this season and

led the majors in wins. Young struck out four and was lifted following 79 pitches.

The Diamondbacks have won five of seven.

Royals 11, White Sox 0

In Kansas City, Glenn Sparkman pitched a five-hitter for his first career complete game, Whit Merrifield and Hunter Dozier each had three hits including a home run as the Royals blanked Chicago.

Sparkman (3-5) walked one and had a career-high eight strikeouts in the Royals' first complete-game shutout since June 2, 2017, when Jason Vargas beat Cleveland 4-0.

Kansas City improved to 4-1 since the All-Star break and dropped the White Sox to 0-5.

Mets 3, Twins 2

In Minneapolis, Michael Conforto went 4 for 4 and drove in the go-ahead run with a two-out single in the fifth inning, helping New York over Minnesota.

Conforto even made the defensive play of the game, a graceful leaping grab at the top of the wall in left-center to end the third with a runner on and take away a potential homer from Nelson Cruz.

Jonathan Schoop homered for the Twins.

Indians 8, Tigers 0

In Cleveland, Oscar Mercado hit a two-run homer and Zach Plesac and three relievers

combined for a one-hitter as the Indians beat Detroit.

Nicholas Castellanos accounted for the Tigers' only hit with a leadoff single up the middle in the fifth inning off Tyler Clippard. Detroit had two baserunners and sent 28 batters to the plate—one above the minimum.

Cubs 4, Reds 3, 10 innings

In Chicago, Kyle Schwarber hit a solo home run with one out in the bottom of the 10th inning to rally the Cubs past Cincinnati.

Schwarber stroked a 1-1 pitch from closer Raisel Iglesias (2-8) into the basket in front of the left field bleachers for his 21st homer.

Robel Garcia and Kris Bryant also connected for the NL Central leaders, who have won six of eight.

Brewers 13, Braves 1

In Milwaukee, Christian Yelich hit his second career grand slam, Keston Hiura and Lorenzo Cain each had a solo homer and the Brewers routed Atlanta.

Brandon Woodruff (11-3) gave up one run and five hits in 6 2/3 innings for the Brewers, who had lost eight of their previous 10 games. He walked one and struck out seven.

Mike Moustakas picked up his 1,000th career hit with a single to right-center field in the seventh.

Giants 8, Rockies 4, 10 innings

In Denver, Alex Dickerson had a career-best four hits, including the go-ahead RBI single in San Francisco's four-run 10th inning.

Mike Yastrzemski homered and doubled among his three hits and had three RBIs for the Giants, who have won seven of eight, including four in a row.

Trevor Story and Ian Desmond homered for the Rockies, who have lost 10 of 12.

Giants closer Will Smith (3-0) picked up the win. Wade Davis (1-4) took the loss.

Athletics 9, Mariners 2

In Oakland, All-Star Matt Chapman homered and had five RBIs and the Athletics won their fifth straight.

Matt Olson followed Chapman's fifth-inning drive with a solo homer that extended his hitting streak to 11 games, marking the seventh time the A's hit back-to-back homers this year.

Daniel Mengden (5-1) allowed one run and four hits over seven impressive innings, striking out three and not walking a batter for the third straight start.

Woods trying to get up to speed for final major

PORTRUSH, Northern Ireland (AP)—Tiger Woods was on the practice range when the gates at the British Open opened Tuesday, and before long he was on the tee and ready to go. He just didn't go for very long.

Woods played a full round at Royal Portrush when he arrived Sunday morning, and then again on Monday. For his third day of getting to know a links course that hasn't hosted the British Open in 68 years, Woods made it down No. 1 and then skipped over to the 13th and played the homestretch.

It would be simple to assume it was fatigue. After all, Woods hasn't competed since June 16 at the U.S. Open, and he has only 10 rounds under his belt since his victory in the Masters for his 15th career major.

In this case, no one wants to overdo it at a major, so this was nothing out of the ordinary.

Then again, very little is ordinary with golf's biggest star these days.

When asked if there was anything physically bothering him outside the norm, Woods smiled and said, "Anything outside the norm." The laughter made it hard to hear him say, "No."

His chances at the British Open are nearly as mysterious as Royal Portrush.

Even at age 43, with four knee surgeries and, more recently, more back surgeries behind him, he showed how capable he was against a young generation of talent by winning at Augusta National with smart, strategic golf to overcome a two-shot deficit and win a fifth green jacket.

It's everything since then that speaks to his outlook on golf.



He took a month off to recover emotionally and physically from his taxing win at the Masters, only to miss the

cut at the PGA Championship. He played the Memorial and then the U.S. Open, and then he was off to Thailand for a

family holiday before returning home to Florida. At this rate, he'll play no more than 14 times in the PGA Tour

^{AP}
Tiger Woods of the United States hits a shot at the practice ground ahead of the start of the British Open golf championships at Royal Portrush in Northern Ireland, Tuesday, July 16, 2019.

season, though he still has a few events overseas at the end of the year.

This is the new norm.

Woods played plenty last year trying to get back inside the top 50 in the world—he now is up to No. 5—to become eligible for World Golf Championships he once took for granted. It led to more golf than he wanted to play.

"So this year I made a conscious effort to cut back on my schedule to make sure that I don't play too much," he said. "I want to play here as long as I possibly can. And you have to understand, if I play a lot, I won't be out here that long."

The trick now is to figure out how much he needs to compete in tournaments to be ready, and listening to his body.

And still to be determined is what kind of weather—the wind, in particular—Woods and the rest of the players will see. The wind has not been the prevailing direction for two days of practice, and it hasn't been much wind at all.

The forecast? Take a pick.

One bulletin provided by the R&A said the tournament days would feature "changeable conditions continuing with showers or longer spells of rain interspersed with drier and brighter interludes." It concluded by saying, "Confidence low in any details at this stage."

That was about as clear as

picking who stands the best chance at Royal Portrush.

Woods sees it as other links courses, where power can be equalized by control. Darren Clarke, who forged his game on these links as a junior, felt the same way. He even pointed to a 6-foot wide swath of fairway on a slope at the 17th that would send the ball down toward the green. Now that's control.

U.S. Open champion Gary Woodland sees it differently.

"The last couple of days, power has been a huge deal," Woodland said. "I've hit a lot of drivers."

He played with Matt Kuchar and Zach Johnson on Monday—it would be exaggerating to say Woodland can hit it longer than their drives combined, but not much—and he found a "huge advantage" by being able to send it a long way in the air.

Woods used as references Greg Norman and Tom Watson, two former British Open champions who nearly won in their 50s because length is not as paramount at Augusta National or the other two U.S. majors.

Norman was 53 (and still on his honeymoon with ex-wife Chris Evert) when he had the 54-hole lead at Royal Birkdale in 2008. A year later, a 59-year-old Watson was an 8-foot putt away from winning at Turnberry. He lost in a playoff.

Woods isn't that old. There was some speculation that cool air—at Bethpage Black in May, at Pebble Beach any time of the year—at the previous two majors didn't help his cause as he tries to keep his back loose.



CALIFORNIA—Manny Pacquiao has not signed a contract to take on Amir Khan in Saudi Arabia later this year despite claims that a deal has been agreed for the bout, the Filipino's publicist has said.

Khan, who beat Australia's Billy Dib in Jeddah on July 13 to win the WBC international welterweight title, said on Tuesday that he had agreed a deal to fight Pacquiao in Riyadh on Nov. 8.

The Briton told British media the clash with Pacquiao would happen even if the 40-year-old were to lose to American Keith Thurman in Las Vegas on Saturday.

"Manny has not signed any contract. As far as I know it has not even been discussed," Pacquiao's publicist Fred Sternberg told the BBC.

"He has been in training

Pacquiao camp denies Khan claims over Saudi Arabia bout

camp for the past eight weeks, four in the Philippines and four in the United States, and he hasn't met with Amir Khan during that time."

Sternberg said he did not know what prompted Khan to make the claims.

"That's a question you need to ask Amir Khan," he said.

Khan had been slated to fight eight-division world champion Pacquiao two years ago in the United Arab Emirates, but no agreement could be reached.

Pacquiao, one of the sport's most decorated fighters, has a record of 61 victories, seven defeats and two draws in a career spanning 24 years.

Khan told British media his fight against Pacquiao was scheduled for Nov. 8.

"Signed off and done, to get Manny Pacquiao is amazing," Khan was quoted as saying by

the BBC. "To have him sign that dotted line is brilliant. No matter how he does against Thurman I still think it's a big fight."

"If he gets injured or loses, what happens there? I still think, even if he loses, it is a very big fight in the Middle East, there has been so much talk about it for many years. I just feel that Manny is himself and doesn't get any injuries and the fight can happen," Khan was quoted as saying by the Guardian.

Meanwhile, there are few more insightful or intelligent boxers than Thurman. The unbeaten WBA welterweight champion has varied interests and doesn't struggle to talk about more than the intricacies of the fight game.

Even though he dropped out of high school when he was 15 years old to pursue a career as a boxer, Thurman (29-0) has

long been one of the sport's most thoughtful and compelling interview subjects.

His speed, his punching power and his boxing skill have made him a world champion, and earned him a July 20 date with Pacquiao at the MGM Grand Garden in Las Vegas (9 p.m. ET, PPV).

But his ability to express himself and create a compelling persona is what has him on the precipice of stardom.

His unusual journey to the top is what makes his story so captivating, though. He's unapologetically himself, from repeatedly referring to himself in the third person to being willing to set parameters for when, where and who he'll fight.

Part of who Thurman is came when he made the choice to give up school and devote all of his energy to boxing. He's a

millionaire at 30, so it's hard to argue against his decision, though it's hardly the conventional or recommended path.

Thurman is at something of a crossroads in his career, though. Because of injuries and personal reasons, Thurman has been largely inactive. He defeated Shawn Porter in a compelling bout on June 25, 2016 and then beat Danny Garcia in another excellent match—which did huge TV ratings on CBS—on March 4, 2017.

His fight with Pacquiao will be the first time since 2015 that he fought twice in the same calendar year. He returned to fight Josesito Lopez in January, and was hurt in the bout and nearly stopped. He survived and went on to win a majority decision.

That landed him the spot against Pacquiao, who has been motivated by Thurman's

trash talk throughout.

Pacquiao, as is his wont, has stayed above the fray, though the same can't be said of his trainer, Freddie Roach. Roach hasn't hesitated to lob verbal shots at Thurman, with the most damning being a condemnation of his speed. Pacquiao's career has been built on being quicker and faster than nearly everyone he's fought.

To hear Roach tell it, it's going to be the same on July 20.

"Manny is so unbelievably fast," Roach said. "He's 40 years old and moving around the ring with the same speed he had when he was just a seven-division world champion. Manny has Keith Thurman's number. Thurman is slower than Heinz ketchup. Manny is going to beat him 57 ways on July 20. The fans know it, and the sportsbooks know it. Manny has gone from underdog to a betting favorite."

Lakay tops Loving Hands in Group B finals

By **ROSELYN B. MONROY**
roselyn_monroy@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Lakay rallied past Loving Hands Day Care to pull off a 69-66 victory in the Group B finals of the 2019 Civic Center Basketball League last Sunday in Susupe.

Yeyel Manalo led Lakay's come-from-behind win, as he scored 13 of his 19 points in the fourth quarter, including a completed 3-point play that served as insurance for his squad.

Lakay was clinging to a 66-63 lead with less than a minute left in the game and the 24-second shot clock ticking when Manalo drove strong to the basket and got an and-1 play. He made the bonus charity, bringing their advantage to 6, 69-63, down to the last 39 seconds of the final canto.

Loving Hands sued for time and when the game resumed, Jude Tengco knocked in a triple from the left key, cutting the deficit anew to 3, 66-69. Loving Hands then had a chance to move closer or tie the match with a triple when Lakay, instead of melting down the clock went for

a fastbreak play and faltered. However, Jun Tabora, who posted up against Lakay's Shane Deleon Guerrero lost possession when the former turned around and the latter slightly tapped the ball away.

Lakay then pushed the ball again to its frontcourt, but Tabora picked Manalo's pocket and with the clock winding down, the former headed to their goal. Tabora was several steps away from the basket with just 3 seconds left in the game and the crowd and his teammates were shouting at him, telling him to take the triple. However, Tabora was not aware of the clock and opted to dribble and move closer to the basket, leaving him with no time to make an attempt, which eventually fell short when he stretched for a layup.

It was a sorry loss for Loving Hands, which led in the first three quarters of the finals that had its fourth period played last Sunday after the Saturday match was halted by rain. Loving Hands led by double figures at halftime, 39-26, and was still on top at the end of the third, 55-49, before collapsing in the payoff period, as it failed to

neutralize Manalo.

Manalo was scoreless in the second and third cantos after logging 6 points in the first, but save his best for last to tow Lakay to victory. Ronald Bernardo and Renato Gaviola also helped Lakay's cause, as they combined for 13 points in the third period to keep their team in the game. Gaviola finished with 14 markers, while Bernardo added 10.

Jun Tabora had 17 for Loving Hands, while Tengco chipped in 12, but neither managed to hit more than one field goal in their fourth-quarter meltdown.

Lakay 69—Manalo 19, Gaviola 14, Bernardo 10, Cabanas 8, Kwon 6, Deleon Guerrero 5, Solis 2.

Loving Hands 66—J. Tabora 17, Tengco 12, Javier 9, Pangelinan 3, Jr. Tabora 6, Ocampo 5, Alipio 2, Kintz 2.

Scoring by quarters: 17-24, 26-39, 49-55, 69-55.

ROSELYN B. MONROY

Lakay's Ronald Bernardo gets away from Loving Hands' Junior Tabora after receiving an inbound pass during the closing seconds of their game in the Civic Center caging last Sunday in Susupe.



MEDALS

From Page 28

Faleta Fanguna, 6-4, 7-6(4).

Following his entry to the semis of the men's singles event or just 10 minutes later, Sinclair returned to the court and played with Schorr in the men's doubles third round, defeating the Solomon Islands' Charlie Junior Benjamin and Popai Leong, 6-0, 6-1. Schorr and Sinclair, who along with Ken Song handed the Commonwealth a gold medal in the team event last week, then topped No. 7 seed and American Samoa's Christian Duchnak and Larry Magalasin, 6-3, 6-1, to reach the semifinals and guarantee the CNMI a chance to play in the medal round.

The No. 1 seed CNMI duo will next take on Rouas and William Bruchard, the No. 6 seed in the draw and winners in their quarterfinal duel against Guam's Camacho and Daniel Llarenas, 6-7 (3), 6-4, 10-4. The other semis showdown will feature Samoa's Leon and Marvin Soonalole going up against the Tongan pair of Matavao and Semisi Fanguna. The Samoan tandem and No. 4 seed pulled off an upset over No. 3 Mainguy and Cyril Jacobe, 6-3, 2-6, 10-8, while the Fangunas also stunned No. 2 seed Stubbings and Mark Gibbons in the other Round of 8 tiff, 3-6, 6-0, 10-7.

Meanwhile, Sinclair concluded his busy schedule with



LYDIA TAN

The CNMI's Carol Lee makes a baseline return to Papua New Guinea's Abigail Tere-Apisah during their quarterfinals match in the women's singles event in the XVI Pacific Games yesterday at the Apia Tennis Courts in Samoa.

a mixed doubles game, which he also played after only a 10-minute break following his and Schorr's victory. Sinclair and Lee, the No. 2 seed in the field, ended up giving the CNMI its third semis seat in the tournament after rallying past No. 8 Leon Soonalole and Eleanor Schuster. The Commonwealth players dropped the first set, 2-6, but avoided elimination and boosted the CNMI's

medal chances after dominating the last two, 6-2, 10-3, to the dismay of the screaming partisan home crowd.

"Colin and Carol had the most dramatic win of the day in front of several hundred Samoans," head coach Jeff Race said.

After the hectic schedule yesterday, Lee and Sinclair's hands will still be full today, as they square off against a

well-rested Brett Baudinet and Tamara Anderson of the Cook Islands for a spot to the gold medal game. Baudinet and Anderson got a free pass to the semifinals after a win via walkover against PNG's Gibbons and Violet Apisah. In the other Final Four pairing, No. 1 seed Abigail Tere-Apisah and Stubbings will meet Duchnak and Kalani Soli after easing their way (walkover) to the next round, as fatigue took its toll on their respective opponents.

In other results, Lee battled exhaustion, as she also played three other matches before pairing up with Sinclair. She had the toughest quarterfinal assignment in the women's singles yesterday, losing to the No. 1 seed Abigail Tere-Apisah, 0-6, 4-6. Lee then teamed up with Isabel Heras in sweeping Tahiti's Estelle Tehau and Chrissy Vongue, 6-0, 6-1, to make it to the quarterfinals where the CNMI pair had a heartbreaking loss. Heras and Lee defeated No. 3 Patricia Apisah and Marcia Tere-Apisah in the first set, 6-3, and was two points away from clinching a semis berth, 4-3, when the PNG pair stole the second, 6-4, and completed the comeback with a 10-6 victory in the super-tiebreaker third.

"Today (yesterday) was a good day for the NMI Team, but not a perfect one. We are excited about our chances of winning three more medals in the final days of competition in the Pacific Games," Race said.

REPAIR

From Page 28

scoreboards, pitch maintenance equipment, football-related infrastructure at a training/technical center, including seating solutions, fencing, and/or any other football specific infrastructure projects deemed to fulfill the guidelines of such projects," the announcement stated.

Companies submitting the RFP should send at email to procurement@the-afc.com by July 26. Full details related to the RFP, including AFC's requirements, will be provided to vendors upon confirmation of participation.

Meanwhile, Northern Mariana Islands Football Association is pleased with this latest development and thanked AFC, under the leadership of Shaikh Salman bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa of Bahrain, for assisting NMIFA in the repair work at the facility that was torn down by Yutu just a little over three months after its inauguration in July last year.

"We are deeply grateful to AFC for their unwavering commitment to CNMI football, for stepping up immediately to make sure we will get the needed repairs at the NMITC so we can provide a high standard and safe facility for our players, coaches, and other members of the community using the center," NMIFA president Jerry Tan said.

A few days after Saipan was hammered by Super Ty-

phoon Yutu in October last year, peeling off the artificial turf of the mini pitch at the NMITC and causing major damage to other facilities, Tan received a letter from AFC, inquiring how it can be of assistance to NMIFA. Then the following month, AFC sent its assessment team to Saipan to identify parts of the NMITC that needed repair as soon as possible.

AFC development consultant Domeka Garamendi and consultant for infrastructure Baltazar Avelino met with NMIFA and after assessing the damage at the training center, they listed six priorities: fence, artificial turf equipment (cleaning and maintenance), pitches equipment (goal posts/nets), mini pitch, floodlight, and NMIFA transport vehicle.

Temporary repair work was also done at the facility to allow the national teams to resume their training, which was halted for about two months, and give the various clubs the opportunity to prepare for the spring season competition after the fall games were canceled.

"Having a facility that conforms to international standards and is appropriate for training and actual games is one of the key factors in growing the sport in the CNMI. It is crucial in helping our players, especially the youth, and coaches/officials develop their skills," NMIFA general secretary Ross Zapanta said. (PR)



Paul trade to
Miami held up over
picks package

PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune Sports

Harper drives in 5
runs, Phillies rally
past Dodgers

PAGE 25



28 THURSDAY, JULY 18, 2019

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Medals within CNMI's reach



LYDIA TAN

The CNMI's Robbie Schorr, left, hits a volley during his and Colin Sinclair's doubles match against American Samoa's Christian Duchnak and Larry Magalasin in the XVI Pacific Games yesterday at the Apia Tennis Courts in Samoa.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI inched closer to getting three more medals in the XVI Pacific Games after Carol Lee, Colin Sinclair, and Robbie Schorr moved to the semifinals of their respective events, surviving multiple matches yesterday at the Apia Park Tennis Courts in Samoa.

Sinclair was the first to advance to the semis after sweeping Fiji's William O'Connell in the men's singles play, 6-3, 6-3. The No. 1 seed will face No. 3 Clement Mainguy of Vanuatu in the Fi-

nal Four match today and a win would assure Sinclair and the CNMI a silver medal. Mainguy earned the right to challenge Sinclair in the semis following a 6-4, 6-3 triumph over



No. 7 seed Macaco Rouas of New Caledonia.

In the other Final Four pairing, it will be No. 2 seed Papua New Guinea's Matthew Stubbings against No. 15 and Tahiti's Hei-



LYDIA TAN

The CNMI's Colin Sinclair returns to Fiji's William O'Connell during their men's singles quarterfinal match in the XVI Pacific Games yesterday at the Apia Tennis Courts in Samoa.

manarii Lai San after the former ousted Guam's Camden Camacho, 6-1, 6-0, and the latter eliminated Tonga's Matavao

See MEDALS on Page 27

Repair work at NMITC moves forward



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The crumpled artificial turf of the mini pitch at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville is seen here after the facility was hammered by Super Typhoon Yutu late last year.



The project that seeks to repair the damage caused by Super Typhoon Yutu at the NMI Soccer Training Center is moving forward, as the Asian Football Confederation has already issued a request for proposal for the construction of the mini pitch of the facility in Koblerville.

In a press statement posted at the AFC website, it's stated that the RFP is for companies specializing in the production and supply of artificial football pitches for the construction of an artificial mini pitch and its auxiliary structures at the NMITC.

"The infrastructure needs could include floodlights, See REPAIR on Page 27

XVI PACIFIC GAMES MEDAL TALLY (As of 7pm/July 17)				
Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
New Caledonia	61	39	31	131
Australia	31	9	13	53
Samoa	27	30	32	89
Tahiti	25	28	27	80
Fiji	23	28	39	90
Papua New Guinea	17	35	20	72
New Zealand	7	10	7	24
Kiribati	6	9	3	18
Vanuatu	6	5	4	15
Nauru	5	2	14	21
Tonga	5	1	13	19
Solomon Islands	4	10	14	28
Cook Islands	4	4	7	15
Guam	2	9	4	15
Wallis and Futuna	2	4	2	8
Norfolk Island	2	2	3	7
American Samoa	1	4	3	8
Niue	1	1	1	3
Northern Mariana Islands	1	0	0	1
Tuvalu	1	0	0	1
Marshall Islands	0	1	2	3
Tokelau	0	0	1	1